

Indian Affairs

Indian Reserve Commission, 1879-1880

Letterbook (Indexed)

(RG 10, Volume 1274)

See Colonist Oct 12 1879 - for Head of B Ford
letter re the Actla Kap a muk meeting

Returned Official Letters filed to Dr. Prosser
5 April 1880

208.
Allard, A. To communicate with Casimir about
white men's intrusions on his lands.

121.
Bank Br. Columbia. Cheque for 1500⁰⁰ sent } A
dated 2 Oct 1879 } B
140 } C
2000⁰⁰ to Commissioner credit } D
27 Decr } E
F
G
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I
J
K
L
M
N
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Q
R
S
T
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V
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X
Y
Z

Barnes, C. will not sic¹⁸ him this year '79.

Brown, W. Sketch sent defining the lands in
his neighbourhood.

Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works.

19.
Green how's case
to City of his
letter 30 Augt

53.
Lands should
not be alienated
in the Neutral
Country before
Indians are
settled with

181.
asking per-
mission from
Mr. Farwell
to make some
investigation
in Land Off

219.
Informing
Ch. Com: that
Anderson's law
is cracked on
Ind. Res. at
Kam's Creek

Loans Statements ¹²⁰, July 1877.

Showing balances due on
Sept. & December Quarters and
Summary of ditto, 120 and 121. D

E

Chillicothe

Copies of letters sent which were
lost in the M^o Lear bundle G

H

Charter 170

After lands are acquired by Com:
further questions to be referred to Dane H

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J

K

L

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P

Q

R

S

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V

W

X

Y

Z

Hudson Bay Co. Refs to land question F. Simpson

Hudson A.W. ^{133.} Com^m regrets his absence from Alert Bay
stating the Indian rights at
Kinkabu ²⁰⁵

Govt. Agent. Lillooet ^{18.} Inform Fountain chief can't see him
this year.

Govt. Agent. Yale. Copy sent Report ^{299.} on Murphy's claim.

Greenhow Thos. Copy letter to Ch. Com^m sent on his land case No.

Greee Samuel. Will look into subject alluded to
on exchange ³²⁵ of land
Gordon Eric. Mr. Fox's place not to be included
²⁷⁷ in Land Rec. ²⁷⁷ remains.

Indian Sup't Victoria. How to settle ²³ Sultan question
On Surveyors' Instructions - sound & ²⁶ "unobjectionable"
Sketch Victoria ⁴³ Reserve returned
Asking for payments made by Surveyors
£. Mts. 15⁰⁰ per M^o to cease - Pay to be 5⁰⁰ per diem
Will write to Ottawa for list of payments made by Surveyors
stating present administration Ind. affairs unsatisfactory
Ap payments made by Surveyors ⁸² Frs. Sup¹⁰ sent direct ^{150.}
On future system of accounts - Estimated exp¹⁰ 1851.
Memoranda on the various Reserves in Clark's River ¹⁹⁴
and Copy of ¹⁹⁴ Scloman's movements sent.
Copy of letter from Mr. Charlton sent ¹⁹⁷
Question of Commonage - Long Lake ¹⁹⁷
Trespass of Chinaman on ¹⁹⁹ Cameron Bar ²⁰⁰
Mem. on proposal of Mr. Rogers to exchange land at Cowichan ²¹⁰
Letter of Langley Clif sent on intrusion of white men ²¹²
On Commons at Okanagan ²⁰⁰
Statement showing Appointment Exp¹⁰ 7863⁰⁰
Calling attention to unsolved Indian question Parlay Old

Indian Superintendent Victoria ²⁸ Main Instructions Wild Books
from Surveyors to be sent to N. West.
On Factor Mr. Guckins' letter about the ¹²⁵
state of matters Indian, at Williams Lake ¹²⁵

Indian Sup't Victoria Court from above.
Mem. arrangement - matter between Mr. G. & Mr. Nicola ²¹⁴
Documents sent connected with Surveyors laid off 1878. ²¹⁶
Statements of apc to 31 Jan 1880 & ton; sent in. ²¹⁷
Mem. on "Fidal's allowance" ²²⁰ Mustoway ²³⁴
Cash statements wrk. Vou; for Feb. & March sent in. ²⁷⁸
Complaint of Langley ²⁷⁸ people's intrusion of white men ²⁸⁰
On ch's Com¹⁰: letter refusing to accept Nicola Survey ²⁸⁵
On Sunday Pay. Boardire / Rec Com & G.B. & A.S.F. ²²⁶
On a alleged discontent, Indians at Cowichan Bay ²⁸⁰

Kennett Capt. Instructions sound & unobjectionable ²⁶
Complete Nicola Res. if possible this year ³⁹, ²⁹
Informed that 8 Mts. ⁶² 15⁰⁰ per M^o to cease
Pay to be 5⁰⁰ per ⁶² diem ⁹⁸
Things necessary to be done at the end of session ²³⁷
Sketch some piece of land wanted by McMillan Child ²⁸⁷
Kipp J. On Chilcotin Road Question

Kennett Capt. To mark line of 60ft road on Nicola Ch. Res. ²⁴⁵
Instructions to Survey Slave River ²⁹³ ³⁰⁷
Slave River field notes sent. ³²⁰
Langley Res. opposite N.West. after 80 to 40 ac. ^N
On dispute between 2 Ind. at Skunk Lake Res. ³²⁴ ³⁰⁷ ⁰
Should use his own discretion in certain cases ³²⁹ ³³⁴ ^O
Information on Skellay & Yakuzakunus ²⁹⁰ ³⁰⁷ ²
Michel. 100⁰⁰ sent due 19 Aug⁶ 1879. ²⁰ ^R
S

McIntyre Inc. Get certificate from Michel, 100⁰⁰ ²¹ ^V
Mc Indian Superintendent Victoria ²⁸³
Mem. on Reserves Chilcotin Roads, ²⁸³
Indian Grove Lecture at Yale ²⁸⁶ ³
Two Copies Census 1879 handed in ²⁸⁹ ²⁹⁰
Enclosing Extracts from Letters of Mr. Hudson & Red Hall ²²⁸
Chilcotin Instructions ready for Surveyors ²³⁰
Further on Mr. Hudson's Letter. Survey work for 1880. ²²⁹ ²³⁰
Robert Wood Muskwam. Letters from Okanagan. Kelp ²³⁴ ²³⁵
Shaptown Flat Minut sent. Mr. Mr. Mullans application Child ²³⁵ ²³⁶
Instructions for Chilcotin Survey. On Nicola settlers petition. ²⁹¹ ²³⁸
On Petition sent to Dom. Gov. and Mr. Sproat to reply thereto Nicola ²³⁸ ²⁴⁰
On Resolution Chilcotin Council. Report on Resolution Chilcotin Council ²³⁹ ²⁴⁰
Mr. Mohun should work at Kaitci. Farwells Report ²⁴⁰ ²⁹²
at Chilcotin ²⁴⁰

Motion 8. Instructions sound & unsatisfactory.
 Chilcotin application for more grass clippings.
 On Reserve Salmon Lake & Bay land for Inds.
 Com^{ee} to be informed promptly of proposed work.
 Nicola Res. to be completed if possible this year, 15th per ha. to cease. Pay to be 5th per ha.
 Things necessary to be done at the end of season work.
 Furnished to Indians for survey of Matzie.
 Further instructions for Survey of Reserves Skamania
 Spuzzum instructions sent.

Minutes of Decisions

Upper Nicola Indians	247 to 250
Lower Nicola Indians	257 to 254. 256 to 259.
Syilx Indians	255
Nez Perce Indians	266 to 266.
Cook's Ferry Indians	266.

Water Privileges

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Cook's Ferry Lake.	275.

Mem: Referring to rights of Indians to fish
 in certain waters etc. 2707
 276.

Michel. Balance wages sent to 19 August 100th.
 Cheque sent 120th 2 Nov 79.
 McIntyre Inv^o Have paid Michel 100th Inv. McIntyre returned
 Have sent Michel 120th 5th Certificate.
 McInellaw H. On Highways etc Res. 36th Copy Letter Sup. Gen.

Inv. Cutcheron J. On Chehalis Rose Elevation

Mem:	What was said to the No. 10. tee 1 st , given to Salmon River Chief 2 nd , b. D. 134 th , correction of 1 st , On the principle applied by the Com ^{ee} on assigning Indian Lands 134 th Appendix E. Yale District 3
	139

Isah, Kaye Expression from Comox - Colonized State
 To Mem, 30 Jan 1880 143th Being a statement of expenses

^{122.}
Notes on Accounts, July, and on Sept. & Oct.-quater.

N
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S
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V
W
H
X
Z
Y

Indian Superintendent Victoria.

Receipt - copy. \$ 1500⁰⁰ ¹¹⁹ from Ottawa 2nd Oct 1879.

246	326 Skewernish Inde Mem: on road furnished, which asked for by Sketch of Reserves
246	326 Copy Coloon to Sdm. not to sent on Stone, R. Res
295	330 Will attend to request respect Ops in detail
301. 304 J. Green how.	331 On Timber land nearby for Tafe Indians
305 Certificate of Improvement given to Chmn. man at Stafftoun	332 Minutes of Decm and Surveyors
306 Statue 305 E hough has no objection	Instruction sent 334
for Survey, Matya	Will require
307. 311 Report sent on Mr Skewernish Letter - Steve R.	until 15 July to complete work
314 Allison's Case Skewernish	335 Sundry documents
315 Reply to request for Lower Fraser minutes to be sent in	Scrub in - Mem Decisions re
326 Enclosing copy letter to Mr Justice on Sketches ref'd notes scrub him, which he denied receiving	336 I am not to have plenty of work at present to go on with. Will attend to his letter as you will

For Telegrams see T.

Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

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Coast work now being dealt with	Mr. Keefe case again.	On Mr. Simonds Letter wherein he states the Census is not correct
8.	Copy letter sent to Mr. Chappell, Esq.	
Connection of the Ind. Dept. with men of war on Coast	92	
21	Intrusions on Pastoral Lands	182
Grand Jury Report, Cassiar	96	Report on Dr. Powell's Report on Coast Tribes
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Mr. Sutton's Report on Cowichan Res.		Stating the opinion of Mr. Chapman & Messrs Cornwall Co. on the quantity of land, bunch grass necessary for each head of stock
27		
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30	Summary of season and work 1879 to Dec. Sep. Gen.	100
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Case of T. Essington		Discontent of Indians at Williams Lake
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42	Would save expenses if Surveyor accomps. Compt. on the coast	117-121. Sule accounts and Vouchers sent in duplicate - also statements showing amount due Compt.
Prov. Gov. should convey lands for Indians Reserve	126-132	31 December 1879
H.P. asked to attend to this		Letter and Report on Capt. Wakes Position
44		
Report of Progress, Cape Mudge	152	
49	In the matter of Mr. Clipping sent to Mr. Gode Letter	A Mr. Stanley's letter to William Lake Chief
Indian Res. British railway lands	161	Mem: on the question whether work should be commenced at Mr. Lake this season 1880.
34		
The Pallotah System - Hakai and his 2000 Blks	178 to 179	Mem: on Mr. Van Sly's question whether the Compt. has been doing work over again Sh. Georgia with enclosures.
64		
Alleged conflict of Ind. titles on mainland		
71		
Further report of Progress - Skushatsh Bay and copy letter to D.P. sent via Indian administration		

Receipt, copy, for \$1500⁰⁰ for Ottawa 2nd Oct 1877.

Roberts and R.S. on Cons' Farm Super Co.
On dotted showing Oregon &c

Race I. On Chilliwack Road Junction

Stewart Don, Requesting him to mark on Sketch sent, the lands he wishes to have.

Telegram to L VanKoughnet requesting money.

None sent since July } 50

L VanKoughnet will give
attention to various letters } 140.
on arriving at N. West }
8

L VanKoughnet have arrived all
payments. various letters will } 140
be given attention

F
Y
W
X
Z
Z

Wake B.A. Answering his ¹³³ letter, undated,
in which he states he sends copy
of letter to Supr. Govr on Indians
Reservations on Valdez Islands.

Warren J. W. Schooder Thornton ¹⁵⁰ no longer required 2 Feb 1880

Water Privileges. Indians see Ab.

Chief William Okanagan. ³²³ Stating that Mr. Brown
will Survey their Reserves this summer

W
T
G
Z

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
on board schooner Tharts
Gulf of Georgia
4th Sept 1879
(Coast work now being dealt
with)

Sir /

When writing to you on the above subject on the 29th Augt. I had not the Commissioner's Records to refer to, and therefore wrote in general terms.

Having now these before me I beg respectfully to enclose for your information copies and extracts from the following letters from the Reserve Commission to the Chief Commissioner of Lands:

1876. - 8th Sept 1878 17 July
1. Nov. 21 Oct.

1877 27 April.

These letters will show you that, regretting, as I did, not having been able, in 1876 & 7, to attend to the interests of these poor people - the Klahooses, Nlannons and Hohmatthkos, I nevertheless, while engaged in the interior or not, repeatedly brought their position to the notice of the Provincial Government. Notwithstanding this, the Provincial government, by which I mean Mr Elliott as well as Mr Walker's, paid no attention to the requests of the Reserve Commission respectfully submitted, and Mr Walker's government sold the timber land which, the Indians wished to have, and refused or neglected to reserve temporarily even those pieces of land which, as likely to suit for crops, I asked Mr Sturges, the assistant Land Comr^x (See my) New Westminster, to reserve, pending examination of the District - see my enclosed copy of letter to Mr Hughes

19th Feby 1879, and of his reply dated Feby 24th 1879. I was several times in consultation with Bishop Durieu of the Roman Catholic church relative to these tribes, which by his great exertions and trusting to a reasonable adjustment of their land questions, have been brought together in one village for mutual help and improvement.

You are aware that south of Comox on the west side of the Gulf of Georgia and Lewis Inlet on the east side, there is not an acre of land reserved for any Indian tribe. I have further, though engaged in the Interior, corresponded with Mr J. M. Dawson of the Geological Survey respecting the lands which he had examined in the Gulf which might suit these three Indians, and in short, for three years past have done everything that was possible to attend to the interests of these people during the expected absence of the Commission elsewhere.

I visited them last winter, in Jan., in consequence of their messages, but the snow, unfortunately, came, and we could not move about to visit the places they were anxious that I should see.

When, in obedience to your orders, I began work on the Coast, these, naturally were the Indians whom I first visited, and their gratification at the prospect of, at least getting their land matters, was shown by the rapidity with which many of them came to my schooner over 100 miles in their canoes.

It was, while engaged among them and trying to mitigate their great disappointment with respect to their timber land, and to find some potato land, that I received the letter of the Chief Commissioner of Lands dated 7 Augt. (Copy enclosed to you in mine of 29 Augt 1879) in which the Chief Comr^x of Lands, ignoring the correspondence of 3 years with

with his Department as to these Indians, and also the correspondence relative to the conditions on which you were willing & should work in the interior during the remainder of this season, describes your instructions to me as "most impolitic and calculated to do more harm than good". I am extremely unwilling to impute any other than public motives to this Act, but I cannot find any reasonable explanation of it.

Are these Indians, still without land 22 years after the establishment of the Colony and 8 years after Confederation not blame any, now, even after what they most desired and repeatedly asked for, has been sold and placed beyond their reach, unless the Dominion government took great trouble to get it back? I do not believe that Mr. Walkers many of his colleagues has acted improperly, but they are ignorant of Indian affairs and indifferent to them, and several influential persons in Victoria are much interested in land speculations in connection with Tim discoveries in Texada Island, and a possible railway terminus at Butchart, and they would rather that the Indians, even at this late period in the history of the province, were left out in the cold for some time longer. I cannot in any other way account for an outburst of spite in the Victoria press as soon as your orders to me to work on the coast became known, and when the place I intended to visit first also became known. Immediately north of these Klahome, Siannum and Nonsalathko tribes is the large and somewhat determined tribe of the Luctataws. They already have sent to me to arrange for visits. These Indians claim among other places, Salmon River Valley, respecting which there are conflicting accounts, but which some say is the best agricultural

valley in Vancouver Island. The Indians will not allow anyone to settle there. It appears to me highly necessary that the land questions of the Luctataws should, if possible, be adjusted in good time, because, if any developments took place as is possible, in this Country, the Cowichan difficulty would be reproduced with the Luctataws, and the Department involved in endless trouble.

The Hudson Bay Co. claims on the Coast require to be examined. At Port Simpson the Indians have very little land, and the Methodists have a successful mission there.

The following notices have lately been published, and the land applied for seems to me to include all the good part of the land at Port Simpson. I have called the attention of the Provincial Government to the non-adjustment of Indian claims there, and at Skidegate and Telegraph Passage, where others have applied for land. If the Provincial government pay no attention to my request as regards those places, and at Masset and Masset where also I asked them to withhold lands. I shall be disappointed and shall regard their action as a commentary on their ^{other} ~~objection~~ objecting to your orders for my undertaking work on the coast.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT I INTEND TO apply for permission to purchase one hundred and fifty acres of land abutting on Port Simpson, B. C., commencing at a post near high water mark on the North shore, and running Northerly forty chains, thence Eastward forty chains, thence Southerly forty chains, and thence Westward forty chains to the place of commencement.
No mining or mineral claims are known to exist in this neighbourhood.

E. R. HANING.

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ERNEST R. C. HANING
Victoria, 15th August, 1879.

Canadian Telegraph Dept.
Victoria

J. Powell's medical assistant
partner - Victoria

B

with his Department as to those Indians, and also the correspondence relative to the conditions in which you were willing & should work in the Interior during the remainder of this season, describes your instructions to me as "most impolitic and calculated to do more harm than good". I am extremely unwilling to impute any other than public motives to this Act, but I cannot find any reasonable explanation of it.

Are these Indians, still without land 22 years after the establishment of the Colony and 8 years after Confederation not to have any, now, even after what they most desired and repeatedly asked for, has been sold and placed beyond their reach, unless the Dominion government took great trouble to get it back? I do not believe that Mr. Walkem or any of his colleagues has acted improperly, but they are ignorant of Indian Affairs and indifferent to them, and several influential persons in Victoria are much interested in land speculations in connection with the discoveries in Texada Island, and a possible railway terminus at Bute Inlet, and they would rather that the Indians, even at this late period in the history of the province, were left out in the cold for some time longer.

I cannot in any other way account for an outburst of spite in the Victoria press as soon as your orders to me to work on the coast became known, and when the place I intended to visit first also became known. Immediately north of these Klakhouse, Shiamun and Hornalathko tribes is the large and somewhat determined tribe of the Luctataws. They already have sent to me to arrange for visits. These Indians claim among other places, Salmon River Valley, respecting which there are conflicting accounts, but which some say is the best agricultural

valley in Vancouver Island. The Indians will not allow anyone to settle there. It appears to me highly necessary that the land question of the Luctataws should, if possible, be adjusted in good time, because, if any developments took place as is possible, in this country, the Cowichan difficulty could be reproduced with the Luctataws, and the Department involved in endless trouble.

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R. R. McMICHAEL.

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ERNEST B. C. HANINGTON,
Victoria, 27th August, 1879.

Canadian Telegraph Dept.

Victoria

J. Powell's medical assistant
a partner - Victoria

B.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT I INTEND TO apply for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land abutting on Port Simpson, B. C., commencing at a post near high water mark on the North shore, and running Northerly eighty chains, thence Easterly twenty chains, thence Southerly eighty chains, thence Westerly twenty chains to the place of commencement.

No mining or mineral claims are known to exist in the neighborhood.

SIDNEY J. PITTS.
Victoria, B.C., Aug. 28th, 1879.
[Government Gazette copy.]

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Notice of intention to purchase was posted on the above land on August 4th.

THOMAS EARLE.

Victoria, B.C., Aug. 27th, 1879.
au25 2m

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W. B. WILSON.

Victoria, B.C., August 27th, 1879.
au25 2m

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Neither mining nor mineral claims are known to exist in the neighborhood.

Notice of intention to purchase was posted on the land on the 11th inst.

J. ROLAND HETT.

Victoria, 27th Aug., 1879.
au25 2m

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I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT I INTEND TO apply for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land abutting on Port Simpson, B. C., commencing at a post near high water mark on the South shore and running in an Easterly direction forty chains, thence in a Southerly direction forty chains, thence in a Westerly direction forty chains, and thence in a Northerly direction forty chains to the place of commencement.

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HENRY E. CROADELL.

au25 2m

*Merchant Victoria**Merchant Victoria**Trader in Victoria**Legal agent for several persons Victoria**Stockbroker and Speculator Victoria*

The above gentlemen, I suppose, imagine that Port Simpson may be a railway place. Such things show the necessity for having the Indian land claims on the coast finally adjusted without loss of time, and explain the desire of some gentlemen in Victoria to the prospect of these claims now receiving attention.

The Indians have complained to me that they were driven from their old settlement at Bute Inlet, which place I will shortly examine.

I know that the greatest pressure was brought to bear on the Provincial Government by Victoria and San Francisco speculators with respect to the acquisition of land there. The Canadian

Government have now reserved a portion of it for railway purposes, and I think the titles on which the above gentlemen acted will not be found to be strong.

I mention the Coast matters on account of their importance and because the facts may not be fairly fully presented to the Department by persons who are interested or indifferent or unlikely — unacquainted with the circumstances and facts. After having been 20 years connected with this colony, and with close, special experience among some of the wildest Coast tribes, in whose midst it carried on business, I cannot refrain from expressing surprise that some gentlemen in this place have omitted to read the plain facts of history in reference to the Coast Tribes.

The simple cause of the grievances of the Coast Indians at Cowichan and other places coastal, over 20 years ago, when settlers first came in & began to spread, the claims of the Indians were not dealt with clearly and firmly before the settlers occupied the lands.

Sir J. Douglas, indeed, intended to arrange these claims as the following extract from a despatch of his, 25th March 1861, to the Secy. of State, shows, but financial difficulties and local pressure appear to have checked his intention.

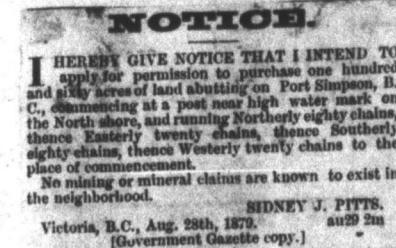
[Copy]

Governor Douglas to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. Gurnell to the Chief Commissioner of Trade and Works

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

(Signed) Newcastle
I have, etc., Newcastle
of the people of Vancouver Island, is at the same time purely Colonial in its character, and differing in the charge that it would entail.

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THOMAS EARLIE.

Victoria, B.C., Aug. 27th, 1879. au29 2m

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The above gentlemen, I suppose, imagine that Port Simpson may be a railway place. Such things show the necessity for having the Indian land claims on the coast formally adjusted without loss of time, and explain the dislike of some gentlemen in Victoria to the prospect of these claims now receiving attention.

The Indians have complained to me that they were driven from their old settlement at Bute Inlet, which place I will shortly examine. I know that the greatest pressure was brought to bear on the Provincial Government by Victoria and San Francisco speculators with respect to the acquisition of land titles. The Canadian

Government have now reserved a portion of it for railway purposes, and I think the titles in which the above gentlemen interested will not be found to be strong.

I mention the Coast matters on account of their importance and because the facts may not be faithfully presented to the Department by persons who are interested or indifferent or not likely — unacquainted with the circumstances and facts. After having been 20 years connected with this colony, and with close, special experience among some of the wildest Coast tribes, in whose midst I carried on business, I cannot refrain from expressing surprise that some gentlemen in this place have omitted to read the plain facts of history in reference to the Coast Tribes.

The simple cause of the grievances of the Coast Indians at Cowichan and other places coastwise, over 20 years ago, when settlers first came in & began to spread, the claims of the Indians were not dealt with clearly and firmly before the settlers occupied the lands.

Sir J. Douglas, indeed, intended to arrange these claims as the following extract from a despatch of his, 25th March 1861, to the Secy. of State, shows, but financial difficulties and local pressure appear to have checked his intention.

(Copy)

Governor Douglas to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(No. 24.)

Victoria, 25th March, 1861.

MY LORD DUKE.—I have the honour of transmitting a petition from the House of Assembly of Vancouver Island to your Grace, praying for the aid of Her Majesty's Government in extinguishing the Indian title to the public lands in this Colony; and setting forth, with much force and truth, the evils that may arise from the neglect of that very necessary precaution.

2. As the native Indian population of Vancouver Island have distinct ideas of property in land, and mutually recognize their several exclusive possessory rights in certain districts, they would not fail to regard the occupation of such portions of the Colony by white settlers, unless with the full consent of the proprietary tribes, as national wrongs; and the sense of injury might produce a feeling of irritation against the settlers, and perhaps disaffection to the Government that would endanger the peace of the country.

3. Knowing their feelings on that subject, I made it a practice up to the year 1859, to purchase the native rights in the land, in every case, prior to the settlement of any district; but since that time in consequence of the termination of the Hudson's Bay Company's Charter, and the want of funds, it has not been in my power to continue it. Your Grace must, indeed, be well aware that I have, since then, had the utmost difficulty in raising money enough to defray the most indispensable wants of Government.

4. All the settled districts of the Colony, with the exception of Cowichan, Chemainus, and Barclay Sound, have been already bought from the Indians, at a cost in no case exceeding £2 10s. sterling for each family. As the land has, since then, increased in value, the expense would be relatively somewhat greater now, but I think that their claims might be satisfied with a payment of £3 to each family; so that taking the native population of those districts at 1,000 families, the sum of £3,000 would meet the whole charge.

5. It would be improper to conceal from your Grace the importance of carrying that vital measure into effect without delay.

The people of Victoria have at all times been in the position of having no apprehension as regards the Indians, and consequently no very keen solicitude as to their treatment, because the presence of the ships of war at Esquimalt gave them protection. The gunboats, by their trips up and down the coast, gave like protection and security to the settlers at different places, but a far better security would have been found in equitable and kindly treatment, of which the Coast tribes in general, so far as the late colonial Government was concerned, have had small experience. It would be attempted by some persons, now, who, apparently have influence in the Provincial government, to enforce a repetition of the inactive and disastrous policy on the Coast alone mentioned.

Only a few of the Coast Indians near Victoria have land reserves: the mass of the people have none, and even as regards their actual village sites are at the mercy of the never defined and ill-understood clauses in British Columbia Land Acts professing to protect "Indian settlements."

It appears at the present time, that, beyond the area of the few aforementioned settled reserves, there is a good deal of speculation connected with railway imaginings, fisheries, mining &c., and those persons interested therein, ^{or who intended to be interested thereby} at present on the coast, raise an outcry, such as was effective 20 years ago when settlers first began to spread, and say, in effect, as then was said - "We are" "the persons to encourage what do the Indians" "want with land & keep the Commissioner back" "give us room for our speculations - if the Indians" "complain, send a gunboat to them - we have" "gunboats there for 20 years and everything"

"has gone well - your new-fangled system of timely" "precaution, friendly conversation as between men" "with equal rights, and gentle treatment on ---" "equitable principles may suit the atmosphere" "of Ottawa, but it won't do for our Seawashes.

I am &c.

Very affeetly Malcolm Sprott

The Hon:

The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs

Ottawa

(See Vol 1) * But the American side, in Puget Sound, the Indians have considerable timber resources and many of them are expert loggers. Our Coast Indians in several places simply want an opportunity, and it is unpleasant to think that they cannot have as good a chance as the American Indians. The Tsimshian Indians, and the Klakooos Siannim and Stomaththos much desire timber for the purpose of logging (Sig J.W.S.)

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
on board Schooner "Thomson"
in full of foggy
Sep. 6th 1879

(connection of the Indian Department
with men of war on the coast)

Sir /

There is a subject connected with the Coast Indians which has long occupied my mind, and which, now that I am employed amongst them, I would respectfully ask your attention. I may mention, that, as long ago as

1860. That something to do with the starting of a large sawmilling and trading establishment among the West Coast Indians, when they knew little about white people, and this settlement was under my chief control for 5 or 6 years when the mill was stopped by want of accessible timber for its supply. I recorded the results of my observation of the habits and character of the above Indians, who are types of many others, in an unpretending but careful account published under the name of "Scenes and Studies of Savage Life" of which I believe there is a copy in the Department, but if not Mr Langford has one.

This early acquaintance with the Coast Indians has always made me think much about them, and it has long been a matter of regret to me that the government of the country should have been exhibited to these Coast Indians in immediate connection with the idea of force, and no other idea, embodied in the miserable ship of war which visited the villages to admonish, or threaten and sometimes to destroy. This was the case in the Hudson's Bay Company's days, and in the days of the Crown Colony up to confederation, and the practice has prevailed, but perhaps to a less extent, since confederation. I am not prepared to deny that this exhibition of force has had its uses in past times among the wilder tribes, and that the knowledge of the presence of gunboats in these waters is in some degree useful now, but the question in my mind is whether this display of rude power has not been too frequent and unvaried, and whether it is a practice which the Canadian Government will think fit to sanction.

The practice may have been defensible in Hudson Bay or Crown Colony days, in some degree, but even then, it is said that the wavy villages have been bombarded which must have tended to confuse the minds of the inhabitants as regarded their relations to the government. It does not seem to be a practice consonant with the principles of the Canadian Indian policy. I have in my possession - received from officers of the Royal Navy - articles of plunder taken from an Indian village which, in support of the police was fired upon by the ship, and uttered forcibly. This took place since confederation. It is the old method - "Send for a gunboat" - "Send for a gunboat" - but one objection to the method is that it probably punishes many innocent persons for one who is guilty; and how does the commander of a gunboat know whether there is any proof - against even the alleged criminal?

What would be said if a white Nova Scotian village were bombarded and plundered by one of Her Majesty's ships, on the allegation of policemen that they had been roughly treated in attempting to arrest an alleged criminal in the village? I know that there are advantages in having H.M. Ships here, and it may not be prudent to criticise too sharply, isolated acts following an invertebrate custom and a common sentiment among the white population here, but having in mind the bad effect of a constant unvarying show of force upon the Indian mind, and also that the preservation of peace and order is the duty of the Provincial Government, and not of the Indian Department, it might be well for the latter to consider whether a policy of terrorism

and repression as regards the Coast tribes is that with which the Canadian government would wish to be associated.

While doing nothing to arouse any feeling on the part of H. M. Naval officers, I think it would be well to avoid mixing up ships of war with the business of the Department. They two represent different ideas, and should move in different spheres. The navy is a reserve power which the Provincial government may call upon, as it may upon the Canadian militia, should its police be too weak to keep the peace. The Indian Department has a variety of duties, so I understand, which are best carried on among the Indians in an unpretending way with the help of influence and authority derived from patient and kindly intercourse, rather than from any display of relentless power. I cannot understand how ships of war, or visits of Agents in ships of war for a few conversations with people at different places, once in two or three years, or indeed at all, can in any way help departmental work. I rather think it must do the reverse, for the Indians simply connect the Department, in consequence, with their old ship of war ideas. Nothing new, nothing salutary is presented to them. As Reserve Commissioner, were my opinion asked, I would strongly object to ships of war going ahead of me, for it would not be good policy to connect land negotiations and adjustments with any ideas of force or menace. What could I ever have done with the Interior Indians had a troop of cavalry preceded me throughout the country, and the

case is much the same with men of war on the Coast? They should be kept as far as possible away from any work of the Department.

The expectation that the presence of a ship of war can have any effect in checking whisky traffic or drinking on any part of the Coast will not be realised. This traffic is carried on chiefly by canoes moving secretly through labyrinthine sea channels. The presence of a ship of war is known soon; she cannot go where the canoes go: her slow, formal movements unfit her for work for which, indeed, the ship of war was never intended. Those who think that the mere presence of a ship of war will have a deterrent moral effect upon whisky traffic or drinking, must have very simple ideas of human nature. I question if any kind of cruiser could be useful in such work. The only way to stop or check it is to get the Indians themselves to act in the matter.

The Columbia Indians formerly were permitted by the American authorities to buy whisky in Washington Territory and they smuggled it in large quantities along our coast, but I am glad to say that a new judge in that territory has interpreted the law differently from his predecessor and Americans who sell whisky to Columbian Indians are punished as if they sold it to American Indians. Still the traffic goes on. The foregoing remarks on coast matters generally suggest some reference to coast transport for departmental purposes in the future.

I cannot too strongly recommend the Department to have nothing to do with a steamer on the Coast. A steamer is of course a very pleasant conveyance

for an Agent, but you need here an all weather boat that can go outside of Vancouver Island or Queen Charlotte Islands (where the sea and weather are often very heavy), and anything in the shape of a steamboat capable of that work would cost a heavy sum and require a comparatively large crew. Reference to the Marine Dept at Ottawa will enable you by seeing the accounts of the "Sir James Douglas" to form an idea of what steamboats cost here.

A small steam launch, though capable of making trips in light weather in the inland waters, would be unsuitable for all the kinds of work, and her working expenses would exceed those of the description of boat really required for the general purposes of the Department on the coast. This kind of boat, I think, from my own experience, and after consulting practical mariners should be as follows:

A ironed schooner of 20 to 25 tons register, yacht lines (so as to work well to windward) coppered and copper fastened.

Wood is better here, because iron or steel vessels cannot be easily repaired.

Schooner rig is desirable as the sails are more easily handled, and a schooner lies to better in heavy weather.

A boat of 20 to 25 tons, well handled, will live where any vessel will live, and will afford sufficient accommodation for the crew and for the Indian Agent.

As to the crew, 2 men, so far as sailing is concerned would be able to take her anywhere and could deal with her sails, anchors and spars. It would be convenient when the Agent was in

board, to have a cook, but whether a cook would be required would depend on experience. He might or might not be required. The crew would be well manned with 2 men and a cook, and thorough manning in cases of heavy weather or one getting sick or hurt might prove to be time & money.

A captain steadily employed, would require about \$30 a month or a little more. The other man \$35, and a cook, if required, say \$50.

The best way to get such a boat built would be to get a model from good roughwater yacht builders (the Cape Ann mackerel boats, State of Maine, are said to be good useful sea boats and fast) and build the boat here of Douglas fir.

I think the cost plainly and substantially fitted, would not exceed \$3500 - possibly it might be brought down to \$3000.

Barring serious accidents she will last from 20 to 30 years, with perhaps a suit of sails once in 3 years, say \$200.

The cables should last 8 to 10 years.

Expenditure necessary to keep her in good working trim should not exceed about \$250 per annum - I mean new ropes, paint mending sails etc.

The navigation in these singular narrow waters, with occasional outside trips, is so peculiar that it would be well to refer any proposed model here for approval before execution. In addition to the small boat for ordinary purposes, there should be a smart larger boat fitted with sails and capable of beating to windward, for going up

intels a day or two away from the Schooner. This boat might be stored between the masts, and taken in & out by the boat halyards.

I think it does not much matter what the schooner draws in these waters.

Probably she should have a flush deck fore and aft, so that the booms can come well down to help in going to windward. The crew being small, might conveniently occupy a cabin with bunks and a chart-table in the very after part of her with a companion hatch immediately forward of the wheel.

It is useful in case of a squall, for the man at the wheel to have his mate below within immediate call.

The next compartment should be the store room entered by a passage from the crews after cabin, so that the cook going forward would have to come aft for the stores for daily use & not have the storeroom too handy.

The size of the storeroom should be sufficient for a spare puncheon of water, spare canvas, ropes &c, and provisions for 4 months say for 4 people; (there might be an interpreter on board.) The next forward compartment should be a large comfortable cabin for the Agent not less than 6 feet in height. He might spend many months in this, so should have as much room and light as possible.

This cabin, if thought fit might be divided into a sleeping cabin and a dining cabin as the Agent might desire. The crew might dine in the dining room. There should be, next, a water closet and bath room or small workroom. Forward of these would come

the pantry and galley, and then the cabin looks. The modeller could plan the last companion ways, for such an arrangement as above mentioned I take leave to mention my views on these matters to give you an opportunity of judging of requirements, and as I have heard of suggestions for a steamer for the purposes of the Indian Department here, which I feel sure would cause a large unnecessary expenditure.

I have indicated a vessel costing, for a first expense, say \$3500, and likely to be kept in repair for \$250 a year with \$200 every 3 years for new sails, and such a vessel should last at least 20 years, so that the distribution of cost over her lifetime will be little per annum X

If you took the view held by me that an expert mountaineer Agent should do a great deal (under the administrative officer) in managing affairs on the mainland interior, I would now say further, that by taking the trouble to choose a suitable Coast sub agent you might get a sailor man competent to act as Captain of the Schooner, and Agent when the Chief was not himself on the Coast, and thus, as regards the Schooner, you would save (if the man could be found) the expense of Captain, and when the Schooner was not wanted, the Cook could be discharged, and the only man on pay would be the mate, who would then act as ship keeper.

I would have no hesitation in recommending, under these circumstances arrangements for merely two competent active Sub Agents

liable to be transported wherever their services were required, and using Indian agency and help as the people might be found fitted for, that there could be effective visitations, and that you could know the actual condition of Indian Affairs both in the interior and the coast very three months. The Coast Agent, when required, could be directed to examine the condition of the Indians up the Fraser to Yale. I would also additionally remark that supposing you approved these foreshadowed arrangements in general so far as to determine on the construction of a schooner for future departmental purposes, the existence of such means of transport would in the meantime, save on the Coast a considerable expenditure in the transport of the Reserve Commission, and in the transport of the surveying parties which must follow - whether or not you approved the suggestion made in mine of 12th May 1879 for the economical prosecution of Coast surveys. The more I study these requirements in connection with Indian Business, the more ways do I see of saving money by forethought and judicious combination of effort and as, so far as I can judge, the result would be just as satisfactory to the Indians. I take leave to state my views, as above, in detail, ^{at what} considering the importance of the question, may not I hope, be considered an inconvenient length. I am etc.
Yours
Superintendent Genl.
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

by G. M. Spratt
bowl

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 9 Sept. 1879
The Government Agent
Dilloctt

Dear Sir

I told the Fountain Chief when I saw him at Lytton that it was not then determined whether I should continue work in the Interior or go upon the Coast for the remainder of the season and I said that as soon as I myself was informed I would let you know in the information of the Indians. Please tell them that the Govt of Canada have directed me to work on the Coast & oblige.

yours truly
signed Gilbert M. Spratt
Commissioner

P.S.

Will you kindly explain to the Chiefs the new fence arrangements they said that the Indians had been fined for trespass on unfenced white man's lands but the new law I think does not permit this

G.M.S.

Ind. Res. Commission
on board Schooner Thornton
Gulf of Georgia 4 Sept. 1879

Dear Sir

I have been instructed to work on the coast so till I get up your way again the only thing that I can do with your

letter of the 2 July is to put it with the others on the same subject until an opportunity occurs for practically considering the proposal with best regards I am Dear sir

yours truly
signed G. M. Spout
Commissioner

J.C. Barnes Esq.
Bute Ranch
Thompson River

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

Sept 11 - 1879

Sir.

I annex copy of a letter dated 30th ult which I have received from Mr Greenlow of Okanagan in which he states that you have referred him to me for a settlement of a matter dealt with in 1877 by the Reserve Com under instructions from the Prov. Govt. to their Commissioners on the Com on

May. I ask that you will have the goodness to inform me whether Mr Greenlow's statement is correct, and if so what it is that you desire me to do in the matter.

The Hon.
to the Comr^r
Lands & Works
Victoria

I am Sir or r
S^r, G. M. Spout Com^r

Indian Res Com^r

Victoria 11 Sept 1879

Dear Sir.

I have received your letter of the 30th ult. and have addressed a letter of this date to the Cl. Com^r of Lands & Works on the subject as per enclosed copy.

The late Prov. Govt. authorised the Prov. Govt. to deal with your matter after it was specially referred to them.

I Greenlow Esq.
Okanagan

Yours truly
G. M. Spout Com^r

Victoria 11 Sept 1879

Wm. Michel. Lytton
Lake Indian Interpreter
to Ind. Res. Com^r

Mr Spout has directed me to forward to you at Lytton the sum of one hundred dollars being the amount due you for services in connection with said Com^r to the 19 August last. Be good enough to give Mr Wc. Lytton the certificate I gave you for the above amount who will forward it to me.

Yours ever
S^r
Gov. of B.C.

22
44

Victoria 11 Sept 1879

Mr McIntyre Sutton,
Dear Sir.

I forward by this
Post a cheque for \$1000 due Mitchell late
19 August last addressed to him by your care.

He holds a certificate from me for this
amount being due him on the above date.
Will you ask him for this and forward it to
me first opportunity.

Address P. Office Victoria.

Yours &c
S. G. Spout Com^r

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Com^r

1879. Sept 12.

Grand Jury Report. Cassiar

Sir,

Following my letter of the 4 inst. as
to coast work I beg leave to annex newspaper
clipping with report of the Cassiar Grand Jury
expressing a desire for what they consider
the long-delayed visit of the Reserve Commissioner
to that portion of the coast. It will not
be possible for me to reach that place this year.

I send the clipping as some additional evidence
that the Chief Commissioner of Lands probably
wrote hastily in characterising your instruction as
"most impolite and likely to do more harm
than good". His error in judgment in this
matter arising perhaps from his not having left

the run of the correspondence), is now, however,
so well established that it does not seem necessary
for me to allude further to the subject.

I am, Sir, very
S^r G. M. Spout Com^r

The Hon.
The Sup. Gov^r of
Indian Affairs, Ottawa

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Com^r

Schooner "Thorntree"
13 Sept 1879

M^r. Sutton's traps on the
Cowichan Reserve

Sir,

Since writing to you on this subject on
the 3rd inst. Dr Powell inform me that he
has instructions to go to Cowichan, and accordingly
I have sent him a map, and a letter of
suggestions as per enclosed copy.

I enclose,
for your information, a sketch of the locality.
The question is much simplified by the
fact buildings not being on the Reserve -
a fact which is so conveniently accessible a
place it should not have taken two years
to discover.

I am Sir

The Hon.
The Sup. Gov^r of
Indian Affairs
Ottawa

S^r G. M. Spout Com^r

Schooner Thornton
13 Sept 1879

Sir,

I send you the Surveyor's map of the Cowichan Reserve, but the map is not yet approved by me. It, however, probably shows, with correctness, the locality near Mr. Sutton's mill. I find that the whole of the mill and machinery except perhaps a corner of one of the boilers, is not upon the Indian Reserve but upon the foreshore. If the Dom. Govt. give permission to Mr. Sutton to occupy that ground, he need not have any apprehension as to the security of the main portion of his investment, and the Indian Dept. need not concern itself therewith.

The question also with the Indians will also be simplified by this fact, because it can be explained to them that the mill is not upon their land, and what is desired is land for the accommodation of the workmen, blacksmith shop &c, and water for the boiler from two springs on the Reserve.

Lying by the eye of the land purported to be sold to Mr. Sutton by the Prov. Govt. will be about 60 acres. It is rocky and hilly, and what the mill seems really to require is about 10~~15~~ acres of the reserve. Mr. Sutton's object in buying the 60 acres, perhaps was to secure one of the two springs, but I doubt if the spring is in the land which he claims. He may have desired, further, to have some command of the shore so as to prevent others from occupying, but there is not much in this object. The water is not used by the Indians and is not likely to be.

The position of the Dominion Govt. in relation to the act of the Prov. Gov. is the first matter to be considered. The non-enforcing of this illegal act has led to other illegal acts of the same kind and it will be unfortunate if the Prov. Govt. get the idea that they may do what they like with Indian lands and that the Dom. Govt. will acquiesce. Mr. Sutton should recognize this and meet the Dom. Govt. as they are trying to help him. He should surrender his Crown Grants from the Prov. Govt. and ask for their cancellation as issued in error. This would put matters right between the two Governments.

Then Mr. Sutton might obtain from the Dom. Govt.

1, Licence to use the foreshore for his mill and booms and wharves.

2, Authority from Ind. Dept. to use water for mill purposes during continuance of the mill as a going concern from the two springs and to convey the water through a portion (if any) of the Reserve to the mill.

3, Conveyance from Ind. Dept., or agreement to convey, by consent of the Indians such portion of the Reserve and on such conditions as the Indians agree to.

I think it would be better they should be asked for 10 acres rather than 60. The 60 acres look large on a map, and the 10 acres, so far as I know, would under the above arrangement include every thing Mr. Sutton requires. And if the Chief formerly agreed (I am told some are absent) and the fact is recorded he will probably, not

be troubled in future.

Mr. Sutton, of course, will not be able to get back any money from the Prov. Govt.

Here these suggestions approved I fancy the Dept. at Ottawa and Mr. Sutton might advantageously come to an understanding before you mentioned the matter to the Indians, and then the whole proposed adjustment would be seen through. Mr. Sutton Jr. though doubtless knowing his father's mind, generally, would probably not have full authority to act for him in this matter.

Your truly
G. M. Sproat.

Col. Powell
(Signature)
Her. Sup'to Victoria

British Columbia
Indus. Res. Commission

13 Sept 1879

The Hon

The Hudson Bay Co Victoria
Genl. Manager,

In reference to your letter of this date I beg to state that having seen in the newspapers and gazette several notices of applications to purchase lands at Port Simpson, I wrote on the 1st inst to remind the Prov. Gov. that Indian land questions were not yet adjusted there.

I think it would be well if the Hudson Bay Co. for themselves, wrote a similar letter to the Com^{ee} of Lands & Works.

I do not anticipate that there would be much difficulty in adjusting the respective claims of the Company and the Indians on the basis you mention, but if the surrounding land should be sold a deadlock would probably be produced.

I am Genl. Manager over
Sd, G. M. Sproat Com^{ee}

British Columbia
Indus. Res. Com^{ee}

14 Sept 1879

Sir

Survey Branch

Referring to my letter of 6 June enclosing for your information copy of a memo of instructions for Surveyors, I have now the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Deputy Super'to Genl. of Indian Affairs dated 30 August 1879 upon that subject

Col. Powell
(Signature) Sir G. M. Sproat Com^{ee}
Her. Sup'to Victoria

British Columbia
Indus. Res. Commission

14 Sept 1879

Sir

Referring to my letter to you of the 6 June last I enclose for your information and attention copy of a letter from the Dep. Sup't. Genl. of Indian Affairs to me 30 Aug 1879. I have sent a copy also to Mr. Graham & Dr. Powell. I am v. v. v.
Prof. Bennett
Indian Surveyor to Col. Powell
Sd G. M. Sproat Com^{ee}

Ottawa, as the following paragraph.

"The Head of Instructions to Surveyors will be returned from each Reserve to the Commissioners in accordance with the instructions on its cover and the Field Books sent to the Indian Super^{int}nd New Westminster in whose Supply the Survey work of this year is) - the originals and duplicates being sent by different mails."

I think I have omitted to send this extract to you sooner but I dare say none of the Field Books have as yet reached your Office.

When they do so, may I ask that you will keep them safely until the Deptt appoints some one to plot them.

Jas. Gurnell
Ind Supd. & H. M. S.

Sir, I am Sir & so
St. C. Mr. Sprout Comr.

The address "Victoria" will find me. The Sup. Gen. finding that the Prov. Govt. would do nothing to adjust water questions in the interior has instructed me to work in the Coast — (Init. G.M.S.)

Indian Reserve Commission
B.Columbia

12 Sept 1879

Sir.
I have received your letter of the 28 ult on the subject of a request made by Allikotsa for more grass at Chapperon Lake.

Please

explain to him that a white man had applied for this land and gone to the expense of surveying it, and that the race-course and a fishing station were assigned to the Indians as their old fishing station settlement, so to speak, and such grass as they might reasonably need during their resort to the place. It was not intended to be occupied all the year by the Indians and so the question is whether there is not enough grass under these circumstances in what you have marked out.

Your obedt Servt
E. W. Coop. O.C.
Nicola Valley

S. G. M. Sprout

P.S. A number of Indians go there but as I understood only for a few weeks and to them it would be a convenience to have a reasonable local supply of hay.

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

Reference number
140 830

In Camp "Cuclatam"
(properly "Laich. kui. tacl")
Rapids near Cape Mudge
11 Oct 1879.

Census of Indians

Sir,

I have received your letter of 2 Sept last enclosing extract from a letter of the 4 August last written by Mr. Gurnell, Indian Superintendent, to you in which he calls in question the accuracy of the statistics given in the instalment of the

Indian census forwarded in my letter of the 3 July last.

The Census now being taken is the first official Census of the Indians of this Province which it has been attempted to take, and I consider it as one of the most important matters under my care as being closely connected with my own special duties and as forming the basis of Indian administration. I will explain the procedure in enumerating the Indians for your information.

The general object of the Census is in the first place explained to the people, some of whom, as you have been advised, have shown an unwillingness to be counted. Their objections have been in all cases removed. The Indians have been told that the enumeration is, and how accurate the information which they give us must be, and how certain any wrong statements are to be discovered.

The whole of the people are assembled and the whereabouts of all absent ones, as well as the cause of absence, noted.

The question and answers take place in the hearing of all, and with the assistance of a first rate interpreter, and the answers are not given hurriedly but are discussed among the Indians themselves, and between them and the enumerator, before the record is made.

Mr George Blenkinstoff who is employed in this duty has been 39 years in this country, having been long in the Hudsons Bay Co. service, and has been more or less connected with work among Indians during the whole of that time. Not only has he therefore in his power a large per-

sumption of capability, but I can say that having seen him at work under me for three years past, he is a valuable and indefatigable officer very specially qualified for enumerating the Indians in a manner to satisfy the requirements of the Department.

When Mr Blenkinstoff has finished his work at a particular place, I take steps to form a general judgment of its accuracy by conversing with intelligent settlers resident in the neighbourhood, and by referring to such enumerations as I may have received from Clergyman or others.

That every precaution is taken to ensure reasonable accuracy to the official Census.

I may add that, as is known to persons acquainted with the Indian character, the people of different though friendly tribes of one group are jealous of the introduction into the tribal census of people belonging to other tribe.

This is a great security for an accurate deformation enumeration of the several tribes at a given date, though of course, in the lapse of years, both men and women, as a result of intermarriage or migration with consent, pass from one tribe to another.

These changes might be known to the Department, if its local bureaus were adapted for such inquiries.

The Indians at particular places sometimes, have been in doubt as to whether a man had to be in one tribe or another, and the name has been held in reserve, until they had determined the point where they have

sent a special messenger to get the proper record made. They have also sent to our camp information as to birth and death, after the census was taken, which though I could not notice these claims, shows the light in which they regard the enumeration in the Census book.

With respect to the stock possessed by the Indians - the horses cattle &c are, when possible, seen by Mr Blenkerup, and very few, often, the Indians are to show them. But it is unnecessary to say that in a country where stock are turned out to roam, and only occasionally known up, as Census enumerator, whether in the matter of whites or Indians could propose to himself to visit every head.

There is the same check upon returns made by the Indians as upon returns that might be made by whites, namely, the general estimate of the supervising officers from various corroborative sources.

In connection with this I may mention two facts - First, the Indians, I must say have in regard to all matters connected with the Land adjustment, shown truthfulness, whatever their general character for veracity may be.

They have often told me things which went directly against their interest, and they had made statements about old matters which I disbelieved but afterwards found to be correct when I investigated old records. The Indians probably have a sense of responsibility in regard to statements made for the information of the Govt respecting such work as I am engaged in. Whether or not, the fact is, as above stated.

Secondly, in

all cases when a statement made by the Indians about their stock has been questioned on the spot, I have invited investigation, and with the general result of proving, as far as might be, the accuracy of Mr Blenkerup's Census.

I may mention one among many such cases. The Rev. Lave Com. at Okanagan, himself a cattle owner and a resident for 12 years beside the Indians, who also stated that he could speak their language, decidedly questioned the census.

I invited him to the camp. I said "take a pencil - put down" "names of men, and the stock and has". He did so, and shortly laid his pencil down, having already exceeded the census.

The letter of Mr. Jas Lenihan, now under革除, seems to me to contain a portion of the common talk of persons who, without knowledge or the means of acquiring it in reference to the Indian Census, have often expressed themselves to me in a similar manner in different parts of the country. I do not understand on what reasonable grounds Mr Lenihan, resident in New Westminster, and without experience in enumerating Indians (at least I have been enabled to get any Census from him of any portion of his Superintendency) should criticize, or rather condemn in the lump, the work during 3 years past of a highly competent officer, carried on with the precautions above stated, in districts which Mr Lenihan has not visited.

I think that Mr Lenihan should have communicated to me any information in his possession

which be considered to be more authentic than
that obtained by expansion local inquiries,
seeing that my only object is to obtain correct
statements for your information.

I shall be glad if he will make such a communication now, so that I may take such steps as may be necessary to improve and further secure our annual returns. To do this Mr. Amherst must state particulars as follows.

State the name of the person who took the census
proposed to be set up. the date and place
of taking it, the interpreter employed, the
procedure employed in taking the census,
the method of supervision, the name and
limits (very clearly) of the people in question,
and then state in tabular details the names
of the Indian men and other particulars of
the census, which Mr. Lemire desires to place
in opposition to the official census taken
by Mr. Blenkinsop.

Do the above in reference
to a sufficient number of separate localities
and times, to enable a judgment to be formed
on the sweeping condemnation in Mr. Bingham's
letter

In any census of Indians, and indeed
of white, there must be massacres, and after
the lapse of a year or two, possibly, considerable
changes from the effect of marriages or deaths
of people, the destruction of stock in severe winters,
its consumption for food, and other obvious causes,
but such change can be estimated roughly in any
case which Mr. Linnikar produces.

H. prunia facie

The detailed census which Mr. Comptroller proposes to set up is not found to be worthy of comparison with the official census it will not be necessary further to notice it, and he like some others here who jump to conclusions respecting Indian affairs, will have been hasty in his judgment, and not, I must think very kind in his remarks to a deserving officer employed in important work, but if on the other hand Mr. Comptroller's Census is of superior accuracy then the fact should be known soon, and I must take my share of the blame.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedt^t Servt^d,
J. B. & Son Co.

The Hon. The Secy. Gen. of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

British Columbia
Gas. Res. Commission

In camp Encelatav Rapids
near Cape Mendocino
11 Sept. 1879.

16

Following my letter to you of 26 April
last I annex for the information of the Warden
and Council copy of a letter from the Sups. Gen.
to me showing the view of the Comr^s Gov^r
as to the making of highways through Indian
Reserves.

D. McMillan Esq. Clerk of the Municipal Council, Tilliwack

I am Sir.
Your obd^r Serv^r
S^r. J. W. Smart
Com^r.

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

In camp "Exclatow"
(properly Laich. Koul. tach)
Rapids near Cape Mudge.

11 Oct 1879

Sir,

(Case of Thomas Greenhow at Okanagan
and action of Provincial Govt thereon)

I beg to enclose copies of the following letters.

- (1) Thomas Greenhow to me 30 August 1879
- (2) My reply 11 Sept 1879
- (3) My letter 11 Sept 1879
to the Ch. Com. Lands & Works

I have not received any reply from the Ch. Com. to my letter of the 11 Sept above referred to. It is not likely that I shall do so, and I have no doubt that Mr. Greenhow's statement is correct.

In further explanation of the subject of this correspondence (which I may remark is entirely distinct from the O'Keefe question at Okanagan) I enclose a Memorandum showing what was done in 1877 and particularly the authority given by the then Provincial Government (see Telegram from Mr. Elliott 22 Sept 1877) to the Com. to adjust it, without raising difficult questions.

Every one has supposed that this question was then finally settled, and you will notice that every precaution and

formality were observed.

I very much regret to have to submit this case to yours, for I am constrained to say that it points to bad faith on the part of the Provincial Govt. or (which I would rather believe) to an unbusinesslike indifference causing an imperfect appreciation of facts that should be within their knowledge.

In either case, I respectfully submit the matter to your attention, as there are others of a similar character whose solution rests on the presumed recognition by the Provincial Government of their obligations.

I am, Sir,
Your obd^r Servt
G. M. Spear Com^r

The Hon.
The Secy. Gen^r. of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

The following letters ^{telegrams} were sent with a slight connecting narrative

Copy of Prodr. Joint Com ^r to Thos. Greenhow dated 11. Okanagan Lake 25 Sept 77	Ditto	20 Sept 77
Copy Tel., — Ditto. to Hon A.C. Elliott —	Ditto	20 Sept 77
Copy Tel., — Ditto to Ditto —	Ditto	20 Sept 77
Copy Tel., — A.C. Elliott to McKinlay & Sproat — Victoria		22 Sept 77
Copy, Elliott, — Prodr. Joint Com ^r to Thos. Greenhow — 11. Okanagan Lake 25 Sept 77		
Copy, Author ^r for 3 Com ^r to act as arbitrators by Greenhow — Ditto		26 Sept 77
Copy, Award respecting 160 ac. to the Greenhow — Ditto		27 Sept 77
Copy, Letter from Provincial Com ^r to Hon A.C. Elliott dated Ditto		28 Sept 77
Copy, Letter from British I.R. Com ^r to C.A. Monson dated Ditto		1 Oct 77

B.C. I. R. Comm^{tee}

In camp near Cape Mudge
11th Oct 1879

Sir,

I enclose copy of a letter of this date from me to Mr. Mokan showing that I wish the Nicola Valley Reserve finished, if possible, this season.

You appear to be neglecting that portion of your instruction, relative to fortwightly advices.

I am Sir your

Sr. G. W. Sproat Com^{tee}

Capt. Scammell
Indian Reserve Survey
Nicola Valley

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

In camp near Cape Mudge
11 Oct 1879

Chilliwack Reserve.

Sir,

In reference to the sketch enclosed in yours of the 8th Septth the reserve at Salomon Lake will include the portion coloured red and that shown with a red margin, so as to afford some hay land for the use of the horses of the Indians who resort thither. Alexander's story has no foundation.

E. Mokan Esq.
Indian Res. Survey
Nicola Valley

I am Sir your
Sr. G. W. Sproat
Com^{tee}

In camp near Cape Mudge
11 Oct 1879

Sir,

You appear to be neglecting that portion of your instructions relative to fortnightly advices, and I also call your attention to the vagueness of the address or from which you date your letters and to the non description of your whereabouts and proposed movements.

Though your official diary will show this at the end of the season, I wish to know it from time to time.

Yours obly

E. Mokan Esq. Esq.
Nicola Valley

Sr. G. W. Sproat Com^{tee}

R.C. I.R. Com^{tee}

In camp near Cape Mudge
11 Oct 1879

Sir,

In reply to yours of the 19 Sept I think that the Nicola Valley Reserve, particularly those outside of the Railway Belt, should be finished this season.

If it is possible to work advantageously after finishing these reserves, which owing to the lateness of the season is however doubtful, you have instructions for Skupnah, Kauka Flat and Siska, and to these places accordingly you and Captain Scammell will proceed, but neither party should abandon work in Nicola Valley without being clear that the whole valley will be finished this season.

In case Skuppal, Kauaka Selat, and Siskab should not suffice, I send instructions for the Borodoya Group.

I send copy of
the to Capt. Bennett.

Yours obly

W^d. G. M. Sprout Com^r

Chilko Eq C.C.
Indian Res. Survey
Nicola Valley

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission

In Camp near Cape

Brudenell 11 Oct 1877

Survey Branch

Sir,

Referring to the amended method of dealing with the Field notes and sketches of the Surveyors employed on Indian Reserves (see mine of 25 Feb last) I beg to mention that Capt. Bennett and Mr. Mckenzie are sending documents in now from the places they have worked in, and that it is desirable these should be examined and plotted so that the Provincial Govt. may have as ground for complaint that the information they require as regards the reserves is delayed.

I accordingly beg to ask you to appoint someone to plot these surveys.

As the Field notes arrive at intervals, it will not be necessary that the gentleman employed should be on monthly pay.

He should be paid for the days on which he works.

I am & &

The Hon^r
The Secy. General
of Ind. Affairs Ottawa

W^d. G. M. Sprout Com^r

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission

In Camp near Cape
Brudenell 11 Oct 1877

Survey Branch

Sir,

In reference to my letter of 12 May last making suggestions relative to the survey of many of the Coast reserves, I have now had some experience by actual visits to portions of the coast which are a fair sample of the whole, and I am of opinion that the suggestion would, if adopted, save the Government many thousands of dollars on Survey account.

I am Sir & &

The Hon^r
The Secy. Gen. of
Ind. Affairs Ottawa

W^d. G. M. Sprout Com^r

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission

In Camp near Cape

Brudenell 11 Oct 1877

Sir

The Provincial Govt. not having conveged to the Dom^r Govt. the Reserves for which I sent

them sketches and filed a note on the 20th May last, I have told Mr. Powell, he should, in my absence, keep the matter a secret, and in case of need, bring any continued delay to your notice, if he finds the Provincial Govt. inactive.

As most of the surveys are within the temporary railway boundaries, perhaps the Prov. Govt. do not think it necessary to hurry in the matter, but it is unfortunate that progress in these Indian matters is so difficult.

It would seem desirable that the Prov. Govt. should begin to convey lands for the Indians as they have had ample time to examine the field notes if they make a to do so.

Mr. Hon.
The Secy. Gen. of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

I am Sir Yrs
Chas. Sproul Comr^r

In Camp near
Cape Mudge
11th Oct 1879

Sir /
I return the map of the Victoria Reserve which you sent me. I have taken a tracing of it. Mr. Farwell thinks that this map is the only existing map of the Reserve, and I do not therefore like to keep it on shipboard where it might be lost.

Col: Powell Your obedt Servt
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
In camp near Cape Mudge
11 Oct 1879

Sir / In the instructions issued for Surveyors it is stated that "one month's pay of the Surveyor will be retained until his accounts" "have been passed and his performance of" "instructions examined"

I have been told that tents and other articles were ordered by the Surveyors this year which were not required, and for which the Government should not pay. I shall be glad if you will give me a list of payments made on account of surveys now in progress so that I may form an opinion and let you know, of the margin of a month's pay will suffice for the security of the Department.

I am &c
Chas. Sproul
Comr^r

Mr. Powell
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
In Camp near Cape Mudge
1879. 11th October

Sir /
Report of Progress

I have been working among the Klahoose, Shannons and Stó:lo Indians, and am now at this camp, beside the village of one branch of the

"Inuklatav", or more properly "Daich-kwil-tach" Indians.

Coming along the coast of the mainland from Burrard's Inlet, the first Indian people are the Skwawmish of Howe Sound, whom I described particularly in my letters from Howe Sound in Nov or Decr 1876.

Next to the northward are the Se-shells of Jeris Inlet; who by the unpretentious work among them of the Roman Catholic Church have been made moral and industrious. Farther north still along the mainland coast are the above mentioned Klallam, Skammon and Stomathko Indians, who, also, have been greatly improved by the labours of the Catholic priests. This work of the Catholic Church among the Se-shells and the Klallam, Skammon and Stomathko Indians is worthy of attention owing to its unpretending character and its manifest success. The people who, owing to the nature of the country have to find their living by hunting and fishing over a large extent of the Coast, are so scattered in summer that it would be difficult for the priest to visit all of them. But they come together at their winter quarters where they have a village of good houses and a Church, and there they are visited and receive religious instruction. The effectiveness of this may be ascertained by communing with traders and woodmen on the Coast who state that the women are moral and that the men do not thieve. The Canoe's crew I had with me sang their hymns night and morning and respectfully reminded me that a day or two, forgetfully, I proposed doing something over

Sunday. This is a sort of improvement among the Indians which will probably have very good effects in the next generation, both as regards the physical and moral health of the people. It involves the minimum of interference with the ways of the people, and is a simple work in which the Church might be aided by the government through an agent's attention and visits, but neither here nor anywhere on the Coast so far as I have gone, can I find any trace of much needed departmental action of a practical character. The great influence of the government in helping good work without any fuss may be illustrated by the following which Bishop Durieu told me. He said that he had often tried, in his most useful work among the Indians, to get them to keep their children clean and warmly clad, but he had not succeeded. Last spring, to his surprise, he found on a visit, that the children had their faces washed and were warmly clad. The Indians told him that the "Queens" Chief had noticed the children and told the people that dirt meant disease and that it was a mistake to let children run about in the cold and wet, without proper protection by good clothing. The Bishop maintained this as a proof of the great weight the Indians attach to advice from the government - greater, it would seem, in some matters, than they attach even to church advice. I had some difficulty in remembering that I had given such advice, but finally I remembered that in an interval when, for some reason, our talk about land ceased, my eyelid rested upon the children, and I

spent the interval by talking about the children. So far when I visited the villages the children who (sure proof of the women's virtue) looked chubby and strong, whereas clean and well dressed as one could wish to see; and some pains had been taken to bush their hair and furnish them with linen or cotton shirts or at least collars.

It was a very pleasing sight, but it was not pleasing to think that this general result of improvement was not due to any departmental help, but to the Church alone.

Dr Powell told me in Victoria (if I rightly understand him) that he thought the government could do little directly with the Coast Indians, and that the most effective way was for the government to help large missions like those at Metla Kahlach, started and managed by the churches or by philanthropic bodies connected with churches. I have not examined yet any of these large missions, but no doubt they will appear to be doing great good, though probably efforts which do not take the people as they are, may prove to lack the quality of permanence of effect. The possibility of doing great good in a very unpretending way is proved by the success of the church work among the seashells Klahoose Shannan and Hornattlah Indians, and this good might have been doubled had the Department recognised this possibility, and helped by funds and advice, and by going about in canoes among the people in a way which clergymen cannot do. Record these facts merely as part of

my experience on the Coast, so far as I have gone & I found the Shannan, Klahoose and Hornattlah Indians, most anxious about their land and desirous of doing whatever was recommended to them as right. In a rumour reaching them that I was coming, they had assembled at their winter village and waited there for two weeks, much to my regret, for they should have been at their ordinary work and preparing their winter food. Among themselves there were land questions which were debated so hotly outside my tent that I did not get to sleep till past midnight, and I was told in the morning that one man had drawn a knife upon another. These facts came strongly on my mind in view of the opinion of the Provincial Government that your orders for me to work on the Coast were "unjust" and in view of Dr. Powell's opinion expressed to me in conversation that he did not see what could be done on the coast. I am of opinion that the Klahoose, Shannan and Hornattlah Indians could with much advantage to themselves and the Church be organised under the Indian Act. There are kindly land questions among them, which they only through authorised officers of their own can satisfactorily adjust. I will in due course advise you of my progress among the people. I have now come amongst a race history and condition & fear is distressful - namely the "Lack-kivil-tack" commonly called the "Inuitatus", of whom there appear to be four divisions or subgroups:

(1) We-way-a-Kay

- (2) We-way-a-kum
 (3) Kaw-lit-sah-nook
 (4) Kine-alk-ay -

Tambe.

Lyff fibert Malcolm Sprott
 Commissioner

Letter:
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa.

British Columbia
 Indian Reserve Commission
 In camp near Cape Flattery
 11th Oct 1879.

Sir /

In reference to the late meeting of the Indians of the Nekla Kapa Munk group at Lyttton. They enclosed a clipping from a Victoria newspaper containing a letter from the Revd W. Ford the only Missionary who is employed among these people.

This gentleman knows the language of the Nekla Kapa Munks, and you will observe that he ridicules the ignorant and wild talk of persons in Victoria in reference to the action of the Indians to cleanse or themselves for such laudable purposes as cleanliness and education. The late meeting should bear in mind the administration of Indian affairs, if it is utilised.

There is already Chorus in this Province against any action for, or by the native people, — however sensible or just it may be, but I consider that it would not become my position as practically an ~~arbitrator~~ arbitrator, to join in newspaper controversy

Tambe.

Lyff fibert Malcolm Sprott
 Commissioner
 The Superintendent General
 of Indian Affairs
 Ottawa.

Copy. Telegram.

R. Vankoughnet
 Deputy Sup. Com. Ottawa

Cape Flattery 11 Oct 1879.

Please send money
 for use of Reserve Com. I have received none
 since July.

Sprott

British Columbia
 Indian Res. Commission

1879. In camp near Cape Flattery
 Oct 13.

Indian Reserve within
 Railway Lands

Sir

Referring to the annexed newspaper clipping of an application for tenders to construct in sections certain railway works between Engle's Bar and Savona's Ferry 127 miles. I beg to state that there are a great many Indian Reserves along the whole line, few of which are surveyed, and some of which are not precisely determined, owing to questions respecting water for irrigation.

I have no knowledge of the arrangements which may be proposed by the Department of Railways and Canals, but

in case they might include, an assignment of land to a contractor for any of these sections, it would seem to be necessary to withhold from alienation all lands assigned for Indian purposes, or that may be assigned; and the same remark applies to water for irrigation required or that may be required for the Indians.

Under any circumstances, of construction is proceeded with, I respectfully express an opinion that arrangements should be made with the Indians in respect of the passage of the railway line through their lands, so that their satisfaction with the recent adjustment of land questions should not be disturbed.

I presume that the compensation would be settled in accordance with the Clause 20 of the Indian Act, and that you would name an arbitrator to act on behalf of the Indians.

In this matter a proof might be speedily afforded of the utility of the Indian tribes being organised, if you confirmed the Nekla, Kap. a. Mukk organisation.

Instead of having to deal with numerous small tribes living over 100 miles of country, the Nekla, Kap. a. Mukk Council in conjunction with the arbitrator, could determine the principles on which the question of compensation should proceed in all the different classes of cases that would arise and thus a prompt and satisfactory arrangement could be made.

There would be questions respecting land, wood and water,

The land might be urban, or semi-urban or rural; it might be land of old occupation and cultivation, or it might be newly assigned land not yet used. The wood might be valuable to the Indians for fuel near their village, or it might be an advantage to the Indians to have it cut down. The irrigation ditches and "flumes" (wooden aqueducts) might be cut in two by a railway line. I mention these to show the classes of the cases that would have to be considered.

If the Indians are dealt with in this matter, in good time, and in the same manner as white men, to the extent at least of recognising that they are not to be arbitrarily pushed aside, I do not think they will be found to be otherwise than very reasonable and moderate.

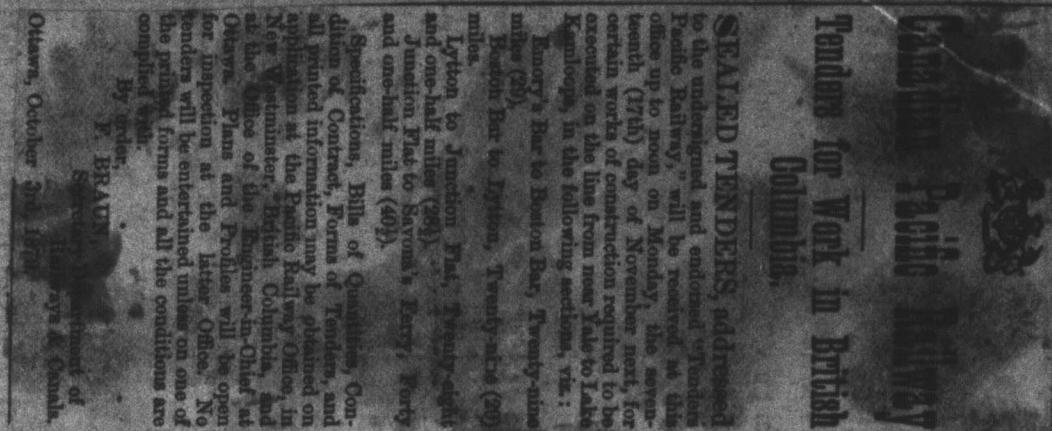
Almost all the Indians on the proposed line are Nekla, Kap. a. Mukk. Many of these people suffered in their moral and physical health in the early days of the Colony when there was much traffic on the wagon road.

They are now recovering and what is remarkable, are themselves oblivious of maintaining a good moral position, but I view with apprehension the effect of renewed contact with numbers of men on the wagon road, such as may be employed on the railway works.

I do not know that Department can do more to prevent this than by some improvement in administration and particularly by enabling the Nekla, Kap. a. Mukk people to help themselves through an organisation of their own.

The Hon.
The Sagatagan
Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir
Your obedient
S. & M. Spout. Com.



Ottawa, October 30th 1879

By Order,

F. BRAUN

Superintendent of
Indian Affairs

Indian Reserve Comm.

S. Report 28 Oct 1879

Sir,

Referring to my letter of 29 August and 1st Sept last I have to say that I find much anxiety respecting their lands on the part of all the Indians I have visited - the Shuswap, Shuswap, Thompson, Kamloops, Similkameen, and the various Kwah-Kewlet tribes.

Pursuing the results of the investigation which I am now actively making, I respectfully mention that it would appear to be very undesirable that lands not ascertained to be Indian lands or required as such should be alienated by the Provincial Government, particularly at Kamloops, Salmo River, Beaver Cove or around St. R. Report, and at Campbell River. (the last is within the Railway Reserve.)

Your Obeyt

Hector has applied for land at Kamloops, but it is essential that no sale should be made there until the Indians reasonable requirements are ascertained.

From 1200 to 1500

Indians look to Kamloops mainly for their support.

The whole of the Indians above mentioned must number approximately 3000 (the census is not yet completed), and until their land questions are fully adjusted no effective missionary or governmental effort can be made among them for their improvement.

They have not, I may venture to remind you, had any lands whatsoever reserved for their use since the establishment of the colony.

I am Sir

Your obest Servt

S. & M. Spout. Com.

The Hon.

The Ch. Com. of
Lands & Works - Victoria

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

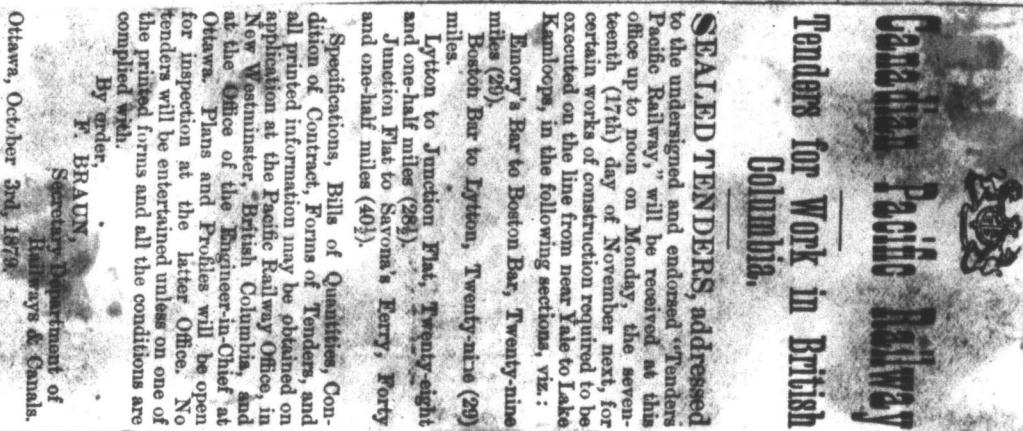
In camp S. Report
27 Oct 1879

Sir

Among the rules and regulations framed by the Kekla Kepa Muk Council, now before you for consideration, there is one, namely Rule 11, which states that the "Paddet" is to cease among the Kekla Kepa Muk, and I made a few remarks on the subject of the rule in the explanatory notes which accompanied the rules and regulations.

The Hon.
The Secy. Gen.
Indian Affairs
Ottawa

I am Sir
Your obedt Servt
S. & M. Spout Com.



Indian Reserve Com.

St. Report 28 Oct 1879

Sir.

Referring to my letter of 29 August and 1st Sept last I have to say that I find much anxiety respecting their lands on the part of all the Indians I have visited - the Klatskanie, Skammon, Tomashott, Esquatas, and the various Kwah-Kewlet tribes.

Pursuing the results of the investigation which I am now actively making, I respectfully mention that it would appear to be very undesirable that lands not ascertained to be Indian lands or required as such should be alienated by the Govt. in this quarter, particularly at Kinkish, Salmo River, Beaver Cove or around St. Report, and at Campbell River. (this last is within the Railway Reserve.)

Yours truly

Hudson has applied for land at Kinkish, but it is essential that no sales should be made there until the Indians reasonable requirements are ascertained.

From 1200 to 1500 Indians look to Kinkish mainly for their support.

The whole of the Indians above mentioned must number approximately 3000 (the census is not yet completed), and until their land questions are fully adjusted no effective missionary or governmental effort can be made among them for their improvement.

They have not, I may venture to remind you, had any lands whatsoever reserved for their use since the establishment of the colony.

I am Sir

Your obedt Servt

S. & M. Spout Com.

The Hon.
The Ch. Com. of
Lands & Works - Victoria}

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

In camp St Report
27 Oct 1879

Sir

Among the rules and regulations framed by the Hekla Kap a muk Council, now before you for consideration, there is one, namely Rule 11, which states that the "Pallach" is to cease among the Hekla Kap a mukks, and I made a few remarks on the subject of the rule in the explanatory notes which accompanied the rules and regulations.

when they were sent to you on the 26 July 1879.

I do not know whether or not the Dep't at Ottawa fully appreciates the giant task which in this inextirpable and most pernicious custom has to be met and overcome.

The resolution

of the Nekka Kap, 2. mts in this matter is admirable, and if supported by the Govt may have useful results. Several of the missionaries have to some extent succeeded in inducing Indian tribes to give up the custom in different parts of the country, but it is the great obstacle in their way. I regret to be obliged to admit that, so far as I can ascertain, there is some ground for the statement that little, or nothing, has been done by the Local Departments to weaken and uproot the "Pallatet".

The great weight and authority of the Govt., acting within its proper sphere, have not been used to attack the system, and so no material nor social progress among the Indians is possible while the "Pallatet" exists. This supineness involves a very unpleasant responsibility.

The "Pallatet" is the parent of numerous vices which eat out of the heart of the people. It produces indigence, trifllessness, and a habit of roaming about which prevents home associations and is inconsistent with all progress. A large amount of the prostitution common among some of the coast tribes is directly caused by the "Pallatet".

The habit of the "Pallatet" is based on the common human desire for distinction which appears to be as strong among uncivilised as among civilised people. Men wish to be talked of among their

own and among neighbouring tribes, and having no literature, few arts, and no opportunity of becoming known as tribal warriors, they try to make themselves known by more or less lavish distribution of property among their own, or among other people.

Though no direct election as chief follows a continually large distribution, the distributor puffs himself up on the strength of it, and has at least the support of numerous friends, and the credit readily given to one who excels in what many, if not all, are striving for.

The poor as well as the rich follow the practice, and spend their time and their earnings in accumulating and then in distributing. It is not possible that Indians can acquire property, or can become instructed with any good result, while under the influence of this mania.

If an Indian impelled by rivalry with another decides on holding a Pallatet, he often has to borrow blankets from richer men, and they always him 2 blankets for one, thus foisting grinding poverty. Worst of all, a man will say to his wife, nay to his maiden daughter, that before the spring or other appointed time, he must have so many dollars for his proposed Pallatet, and they in this way, and I believe more in this way than from licentious desire are forced into the prostitution which it has become almost a ~~constitutional~~ ^{constitutional} thing for Indian agents to mention and deplore without seeking to strike down the hideous system which mainly produces it.

There

There is a great 'Pallatet' being held now at Cowichan which is quite close to Victoria, and Indians have gone to it from the north west of Vancouver Island.

On undertaking work among the Coich, Kivil, Lach or Luctotain lately at Cape Mudge, a man brought me a book in which some white man had written for him that he had given away \$2000 worth of Blankets. The Indian came up evidently assured that he would produce an impression on me, at this place within 100 yds of my tent there are painted over the door of an Indian house the following words

"Kakitich"

"On the 30th October 1875 gave away"

"probably to the amount of 2000"

"Blankets and has taken the place"

"of Fat Joe"

"Fort Rupert"

The owner is absent, but as doubt on his return he also will show me and some pride this record. I will tell him what I told the other man, namely, that the writing showed me that he was a fool and unmerciful of his family, and that he might be sure that the Queen thought as I did.

These cannot be a stronger proof that no attempt has been made to attack the 'Pallatet' than these men approaching me, a highly placed officer of the Govt, without any consciousness that they would be rebuked instead of praised.

I am very sorry to say that it would not have been too much to expect that whether the 'Pallatet' could be killed or not, these Indians, living in an easily accessible place, might at least have been told that the Government regarded the 'Pallatet' as a very bad thing. The elements of Indian administration do not seem yet to have been appreciated or practised in this Province. This is a strong remark but what can I honestly say with the facts that are around me, and hearing the talk of the missionaries who complain that the Govt. gives little or no help in their fight against such a soul-corroding system as the 'Pallatet'?

Warning and rebuke from an officer having the great authority of the Govt. and acting judiciously but decisively in proportion to his responsibility would have a remarkable effect in discouraging the practice, and by and by when the proper time came, it might be necessary in some cases to lay an iron hand upon the shoulders of the people in some parts of the country, particularly on the coast.

The most hopeful Indian fact in the history of the Province is the spontaneous abolition of or resolution to abolish the 'Pallatet' by the Ketla, Kap-a-mukts of the interior.

Its influence if carried out, will be beneficial and far-reaching by the example it will afford.

The organisation of the people, will produce the following effect - a career is opened to the Indians; there are offices among them which men can hope to fill

and these men having been approved by the Queen will occupy a higher and more cooled position than that which satisfies the ambition of a man who attempts to pass himself off as a chief in virtue of a Pallotat distribution.

The one will quietly and naturally kill off the other as the rays of the sun kill a small coal fire. Compared with Queen's chief the Pallotat chief (under a system condemned moreover by the Queen's officer) would soon be nowhere.

I do not say that all or comparatively many of the tribes in the interior or coast are fit at present for organisation for municipal purposes under the Indian Act, but those who are fit should have that privilege granted to them in view of the great advantages likely to follow, of which in speaking of the effect upon the "Pallotat" I have mentioned only one.

The others should be rebuked, warned and instructed, and gradually trained for responsible management of their own little affairs, not by an officer calling for an hour at a village once in a few years with a gunboat for a conveyance but by an officer living constantly in their midst going from place to place and encamping to get information and to have a talk - appearing unexpectedly at certain resorts, threatening the Pallotat givers, and bending the people to his will for their own good, by mingled instruction, persuasion and firmness.

When I landed in 1860 on the West coast of Vancouver Island and soon became acquainted with the

evils of the Pallotat, I could not have thought it probable that 19 years later, I should have to write of the "Pallotat" as I should have written in 1860, and that not in out-of-the-way places but within easy reach of Victoria, and after the management of Indian affairs had been for eight years in the charge of the Govt. of Canada which spared no reasonable expenditure.

I have written these few lines on the subject of the "Pallotat" as it is a most grave one, brought forcibly to my mind just now by various circumstances, and as it lies, like a huge incubus, upon a & philanthropic, administrative or missionary effort for the improvement of the Indians.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

The Hon,
the Sup^r Genl
Indian Affairs
Oblig^y

Yours ob^r Sir
G W Spratt. Com^r.

Indian Res. Commission.
British Columbia

Nov 10. 1879

At the request of the Gov^r. wet or Salish Indians I write down part of what I said to them on matters outside of land business.

I said that the Government was pleased to know that they got on well with the white people, and that they were industrious.

The Queen's mind towards the Indians was the same as towards the white, and she would be glad if the

Indians would do what would make them healthy and happy. They should try to keep themselves and their houses clean, and prevent sickness, especially among the young children, by the use of warm clothing. They should not drink whisky and should tell the authorities who brings it among them. Much care should be taken of their young women, so that the young Indian men might have wives, which they cannot have if the young women go to live at Vancouver, Victoria or New Westminster as prostitutes.

The Queen has no wish to stop the friendly meetings and feasts of the Indians, where they may show goodwill and talk as white people do at their social gatherings, but she thinks the great feasts are mischievous in their effects, tending to make the Indians poor and to encourage idleness.

The Govt. does not value a chief who gets his position by pullbacks, but recognises the merit of any influential man who tries to make his people obey the law and practice morality and industry.

Alb. M. Sproat
Com^{tr}

Indian Res. Com^{tr}
Schooner Roonota
Rooxeti

10 Nov. 1879

Sir,

I presume that you have been advised from Ottawa that Mr. McLean's \$15⁰⁰ per day is to cease, and that he and Captain Lammette are to be paid at the same rate as Surveyors in Manitoba and the North West Territory. That is \$5⁰⁰ per day - this being an amendment of my general instructions for Surveyors, but nevertheless think it well to mention the matter to you, not knowing exactly the course of departmental correspondence.

I will write to Ottawa for the list of payments asked for in mine of the 11th Oct. and mentioned in yours 28th idem as I judge you are not able to furnish the same, or you would have enclosed it.

Col. Powell
Int. Sup^{tr} Victoria

I am Sir very res^{pect}
St G M Sproat Com^{tr}

Indian Res Com^{tr}
British Columbia

Rooxeti - In camp
Vancouver 8 Dec 10 Nov. 1879

Sir,

Following my letter of the 14 Sept last, I have to inform you that Mr. McLean's 15⁰⁰ extra per month is to cease

and you and he are to be paid at the same rate as the Surveyors employed on similar work in Manitoba and the North West Territories. That is 18⁵⁰ per day.

The general instructions enclosed in my letter to you of 6 June last having to be, in this respect, amended, I think the intention probably is that this arrangement will apply from the beginning of your work this season.

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. M. Sprout Com^r
Cap. Surveyor
Ind. Res. Survey
Nicola

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission

Schooner Thornton
Vancouver 8 Dec't H. Ross 1879

Sir,

Following my letter of the 14 Oct'r last, I have to inform you that the 15th per pound extra which you have been getting is to cease, and that the Surveyors in charge of parties in this province under my immediate direction are to be paid at the same rate as the Surveyors employed on similar work in Manitoba and the North West Territories. That is 18⁵⁰ per day. Be good enough, accordingly, to note this on the general instructions enclosed in mine to you of 6 June last.

E. Preston Esq C.C.
Ind. Res. Surveyor
Kiclosla

I am Sir & so
J. G. M. Sprout Com^r

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

Nov. 26. 1879
In camp.
10 hrs 1879

{ Alleged confederation of
Indian tribes on the mainland }

Sir.

The Rev. Mr Hale who is working as a missionary among the Sec. Kewelt Indians, whose affairs I am now examining, informs me that when in Victoria recently there was some talk in the circles in which he moves, about "Mr Sprout and the confederation of his tribes on the mainland".

It is not necessary for me to offer remarks on ~~any~~ ^{any} differences that is uttered about Indian affairs, but the above allegation is so broad, and at the same time so unfounded and ridiculous, that I will venture to make a few observations, in case it should come to your ears.

The only confederation which I ever heard of in this Province was the concerted action of the Okanagan and Shuswap Indians, two or three years ago, before they considered their legal rights. An outbreak of these Indians was, in my judgment, then imminent. It was prevented by the work of the Reserve Commission. Had it occurred the Province would have been ruined for several generations.

Instead therefore of attempting to "confederate" Indian tribes (a large phrase that fills

the ears of the ignorant and timid, it has been my lot to be an instrument in the breaking up of the only "confederation of Indians that ever existed in this country."

The value of that action has been somewhat diminished among the Okanagan and Shuswaps by what the Provincial Govt. have done, and omitted to do, since the Reserve Com^m passed through their districts, but in a separate letter of this date I enclose a letter to me from the chief Chilcotin, dated 5 Oct 1877 showing his loyalty, notwithstanding difficulties. This chief is the most influential on the southern interior. When the American Indians were in arms south of the line, they sent special messengers, sometimes twice a week, to Chilcotin. I do not think it likely that the Okanagan and Shuswaps will again "confederate" against white people because the mass of these Indians are reasonably satisfied respecting their lands, though some of the chiefs make rough speeches, but the sale of the Osoyoos Reserve and the action of the Provincial Govt. in regard to Indian lands at Similkameen and the head of Okanagan Lake - already fully advised by you - may yet cause very serious trouble and perhaps a local outbreak with bloodshed.

With this in view it is necessary to understand distinctly that neither the Provincial Govt. nor any officer of theirs can be to blame.

The action of the Dominion Govt. has been remedial entirely, and you will see from Chilcotin's letter that, even now, after two years of trouble, it is the influence of the Dominion

Government that is working to prevent a breach of the peace at the head of Okanagan Lake.

One does not like to speak of oneself, but when the profound race prejudice that exists in some quarters here causes indirect attacks to be made it is well that facts should be known.

The foregoing shows that, instead of making a confederation, I broke it up, and afterwards when the Provincial Government by their proceedings reproduced some of the evils at Okanagan which had caused the confederation to spring into life, I have used influence to keep the peace, and am doing so at this time.

A little is known about the Indians by many persons in this province who might be expected to be well informed, that I have thought it desirable to mention the foregoing little piece of history, in relation to anything that may at any time be said on the subject of "confederating" Indians in British Columbia.

I may add that perhaps vague ideas of "confederation" have been derived from the meeting of the Nekla, Kap. a munks at Lytton (See my letters Nov 6-1878 - Feb 1-1879), if so, the critics merely show their ignorance of affairs. Both as a phrase and in fact, the term "Confederation" is quite inapplicable to anything these people have done.

It is a singular statement to make, but I believe that very few, even of the white residents living amongst the Nekla, Kap. a munks, knew that so distinctive

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an Indian people isolated. They lumped them as "Thompson Indians". Probably not even one in the province could, now, state the limits of the districts they inhabit. They are a distinct group as the most exclusive Highland Clan in old days in Scotland. They have their own history and language, their own traditions and ways, their own places of resort, they have their own high families. Not only has no attempt been made to confederate the Kekla Kap. a. mks with the Okanagan, Shuswaps, or any other Indian groups, but it would be entirely beyond the power of the Dominion and Prov. Gov't. Combined, to effect that object if they tried. The people would not be confederated. They are, as they say, Kekla Kap. a. mks; they are Okanagan or Shuswaps. I believe that, at this time, every one of them wishes to show the Government that the Kekla Kap. a. mks will be behind none in following the Queen's mind. That is their humble and sincere desire, and when I say so, I speak of men whom I know thoroughly, and who, though Indians, are my personal friends, whom I am bound to speak for, as they have some difficulty in making their most reasonable views and wishes known through an atmosphere thick with prejudice and injustice.

Nothing is more clear to me, after studying, dispassionately, amongst trusty and composed records, the whole history of Indian affairs in this Province since its establishment as a colony, than the just and sincere intentions of Sir James Douglas in carrying out the orders of the English Gov't. to treat the Indians reasonably

and humanely, but it is equally clear that he, with all his powers as a Crown Colony Governor, was baffled by public sentiment and by his subordinates. His successor, no doubt just and enlightened men, but new to the country, and, perhaps, avross from the labour of personal investigation, were more at the mercy of their subordinates than Sir James was. In some cases I have ascertained that these subordinates were actuated by selfish interests in their action towards the Indians (see a circular of Sir James Douglas himself), but it is fair to bear in mind that more likely they were indifferent, their other duties were pressing, the Indians showed little disposition to cultivate, and so forth. But be the fact what it may, the Indians, ultimately, being unable to make their wishes known at headquarters, in any way, despaired and "confederated" - to use the last resource open to aggrieved men. This League was broken up, as above described, and now when the Indians have few friends outside Govt. of Canada, it seems to me that the elements of pressure which baffled Sir James Douglas and others will be brought to bear on that Govt. The Indians are unable to speak for themselves; they are an inarticulate multitude, they have no proper representative but yourself; the Members and Senators whom we send to Ottawa will not pretend that they represent the Indians.

Now, in relation to the subject of his letter, I will turn upon my notes, if such there be, and give a further piece of information. The security of the Province to day, next to the effect of

recent equitable dealings is owing to the fact above mentioned, that the Tekla Kapsunks would not "confederate" and could not be "Confederated". Had they joined the League of the Okanagan & Shuswaps several years ago the "confederation" would have been very formidable while the Indians had a sense of grievance, but they would not do so, though that portion of them inhabiting Nicola Valley were so discontented that they would not ride a few miles to see Lord Dufferin pass up the wagon road.

The Tekla Kapsunks do not ask the Govt. to pay them for their right, or assumed right, to the soil, nor do they ask for annuities or presents. They do not demand an unreasonable quantity of land, but such as they can use. They wish to see the white people live among them and thrive.

They desire that at least the great chief at Ottawa" should have some means of knowing their minds and their action, for as they mean their acts to be good, they wish him to know the fact from time to time. They have 800 or 900 children among them of school age. This is the fact on which my mind is fixed, for, with the good feeling which actuates the grown up people, what might not the coming generation of these people achieve in the way of satisfactory progress? Are they not to be permitted to cultivate a moderate piece of land in their own country, - to make efforts, at their own cost, principally to improve the physical condition and minds of their children, - and to train themselves for

a citizenship in a way approved by the Canadian Parliament - merely because gentlemen who do not know the A.B.C. of the question stigmatise them as plotters, and vilify anybody who says a word in their favour?

I hope it do not write with undue warmth, but these people specially expect me to tell you their minds and with that view invited me to Lytton, and I am under considerable apprehension as to the possibly injurious effects upon these Indians of contact with railway workmen, if the railway is constructed, and wish them to be in a position to decide by their own organisation, the action of the Department for their own protection.

Sam. Sev. i. o. o.
J. S., G.M. Spout Co.^o

Sh. Hon: J. S., G.M. Spout Co.^o
St. Ch. Secy. of
Ind. Affairs - Ottawa.

Postscript.

I perhaps should have stated that, as regards the Tekla Kapsunk people themselves, their proposed organisation for school and other purposes creates no new bonds; it merely brings them nearer to the Govt. in certain respects, and tends to train them a little in managing their own affairs. They always have been a distinct people, and have had their meetings and "laths" and their chiefs, and have chiefs though the settlers living amongst them do not seem to have known much about these facts. The practice of municipal

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doubt, by fostering individual independence, will loosen and weaken those tribal bonds and relations in which some people see danger. I consider the proposed municipal arrangements of the Keklakwpa a mark a most hopeful sign and a great security to the Government.

Supt G.W.S.

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission.

Shushatthe Bay
11 Novr 1879

Quarter Report of Progress

Sir,

I wrote last on this subject on the 11 Oct when I described my work in general among the Klallamose, Shannan and Homalchits tribes, and informed you I was about to proceed further north among the "Lach. Kew Lacks" commonly called "Cuckatoo".

Many of these Indians, including the principal chief, having been absent at a "Padatot", I could not complete my work amongst them, but considerably advanced it and examined a portion of their districts.

There are two principal places affording good land such as these people should have a share of, if anything is ever to be made of them, which places are at Campbell River just inside Cape Mudge

and at Salmon River farther to the north.

I found that a serious dispute existed at Campbell River between the Indians and a white squatter. The latter said that the Indians had threatened him and the Indians said that the squatter had fired his gun at them. The squatter told me that he had been several times to Victoria to try to get papers for the land, but being within the Railway Reserve he could not get papers. Here then, but for the accident of the Railway Reserve, would have been a dispute causing trouble for years to the Department.

At Salmon River the Provincial Govt. made Survey in 1877, and their Surveyor reported to them that the Indians were then "and very jealous of our operations".

The whole of Cormorant Island including, so far as I can ascertain, a settlement of the Hinitch Indians, where they still reside, has been leased by the Provincial Govt. to a Mr Hudson for a long term of years.

The old place of the Klak. with site of the Kewah Kew Ah Klak. with site of the Klick. see. way has been occupied by white men and passed through several hands. This, with other places, was protected by the following agreement, which Sir James Douglas told me are valid legal instruments. They are documents which will govern some questions in this neighbourhood between the Indians and the Hudsons Bay Company.

At howevert still never the west of the Island of Vancouver a white trader has built several houses within the settlement.

Various applications to purchase lands have also been made lately in the localities now being examined and I accordingly have written a letter on the subject of the Indian requirements in this district to the Chief Commr. of Lands at per enclosed copy dated 26 Oct 1879.

The Rev Mr Hall

a clergyman connected with the Church Missionary Society, stationed for the present, at Fort Rupert informs me that until the Indians' land questions are settled, he cannot get on satisfactorily with his work, and he says further that during the last two years the Indians have repeatedly asked the Hudson's Bay Co. trader to make their wishes known to the authorities.

This is what any intelligent witness to a person would have supposed and it would not have been worth mentioning, but for the attempt lately made by the Prov. Gov^c and others to prevent investigation and adjustment of land questions in this quarter, for reasons which I cannot surmise.

The proposed work of two such powerful and benevolent bodies as the New England Company, and the Church Missionary Society among those perhaps the most morally degraded tribes on the coast, has been practically held back or stopped by the non-adjustment of those land questions.

It is obvious

one would think to common sense that such societies cannot undertake systematic work for the good of the Indians until it is known where the principal locations of the Indians are to be, after an examination of the question in reference to the wishes of the people and the possibilities of administrative or other benevolent effort among them in the future.

I find more questions and difficulties as regards land among these Indians than I myself anticipated, and considerably more difficulty here than in the interior in forming sound opinions respecting the future.

The group of Indians among whom, since leaving the Klap. house, Siennon and Hornal Etka Indians, I am working may be called the "Kwah. Kee Ott" group - the Kwah. Kee Ott tribe having been generally considered to be the leading tribe among the people.

Their country is from below Cape Mudge up to Smith Sound on the mainland and including Juan de Fuca Sound on the North West of Vancouver Island.

The tribes which all speak the same language, and number from 2500 to 3000 are as follows:

Kwakwakwas including Kookwa

Kopinins
Macknas

Habitants on Ros. we. to
Kwah. she. Lak
Ish. Knock. to

Ish. waw. tay. neuch
Ish. ma. Al. le. kulla
Klap. wit. sis
Kewkish
Mah. teeth. pe
Sa. rock touch
Kwah. Kee Ott
Saich. Kivil. last

He

Qweekano tribe in Rivers Inlet Site Hugh Sound are more Bella Bella Indians than Kwah. Kee Ott Indians.

The above tribes require special attention for their condition is not satisfactory and I see few signs of progress. They are in the very heart of the Coast Superstition. The Paddlet custom has a strong hold among them.

They do not seem to realize that the Govt. disapproves of "Paddletting" among themselves, and that the Govt. will not give them woolen presents. Some of them came to me and expecting that I would open bales of goods and distribute them. That was their idea of a great chief until I unsewed them. When I smoked a pipe with them at their fires, and said in courtesy "Come and see me at my tent" they brought women, thinking I wished them to come for immoral purposes. Some of the tribes are much given to the use of whisky. Nearly all of them send their women to Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, and even Puget Sound for purposes of prostitution. Cannibalism is not extinct.

Having now worked up from Victoria to the extreme west of Vancouver Island, examining carefully the requirements and condition of the Indians, my experience in this ~~the~~ ^{and} West Superintendent strikingly confirms the opinion expressed last year in Mr. Vankoughnes report that the present system has not produced the hoped for results.

Things are no better here than on the mainland, and this I say without meaning any unkind criticism.

As the ^{Agent} ~~Leahy~~ sits most of his time in New Westⁿ, and occasionally goes up the river or road in a public conveyance and comes back to his office again, so is it in the case of the Super. at Victoria.

What possible good effect can any one produce, remaining year after year in Victoria, and then going round the Coast in a gunboat, at intervals of years, to make a speech, during a hurried visit, and distribute a few presents?

The mere residence of an Agent in Victoria is a bad thing for it is a good excuse for Indians going thither from distant places. There are no Indians at Victoria that need a special attention. Here along the Gulf of Georgia and especially among the Kwah, Kwah people north of Cape Mudge, becoming more degraded yearly, is where an Agent should have been working in a cause from village to village for several years past, sitting at the fire places of the people, conversing with them, explaining to them the uses of the Govt., and

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drawing out of them whatever of good there is in them. As it is they do not seem instructed in anything, and work for their good will be doubly difficult, for, practically except for mild probts offered at long intervals, the Supervisor of the Department must have the effect of some ~~great~~ Sanctions in its mind of the Indians things which it will be necessary to condemn if any attempt to improve the Indians is ever made.

It is a most grave matter that several thousands of Indians, belonging to a class with proved capabilities of improvement, should be permitted to sink almost irrecoverably without any attempt being made to save them. If Dr. Powell had been among them in his canoe or schooner for 7 or 8 months during each of the last 4 or 5 years, what great good might not have been effected in every respect, but more particularly as regards whisky-drinking ^{commutation} ~~Pallatating~~ and wholesale prostitution? There has been nothing of a practical nature attempted that I can hear of in regard to any of these evils, all of them are growing, and growing freely under the eyes of the Government except where Missionaries have checked their growth. They can be rooted out every one of them. In view of Dr. Powell's profession also, I cannot help asking what great good might not have been done in improving the physical, as well as the moral health of the people?

The arrangement at present with medical matters is, so far as I can ascertain, as follows.

Superintendent, residing at Victoria, which is at the extreme end of over 800 miles of coast, gives medical advice and aid to any Indian who is able to go to his offices. This cannot be a convenient arrangement for sick peoples and their conveyance is an excuse for others going to Victoria. Many poor creatures, of course, do go to Victoria, but it must be a considerable tax on their means, and on what strength that may remain to them to undertake such a journey and to remain for any time at Victoria, or away from home. I find sick or injured Indians in almost every village. The children seem to die off.

If the Superintendent does not iterate, there is of course no other course open to those Indians needing medical aid than to go to him, and I doubt not every attention is paid to them.

The other part of the medical arrangements seem to be that D'Pouelle sends an assortment of medicines to the missionaries and to others, who will little or no knowledge, undertake to dispense them.

I mention these matters not in any way to criticise D'Pouelle, but to show the result of my experience in working along the coast, so far, in his Superintendency. The arrangements do not seem to be suited to the circumstances and this is a fact which can be appreciated without necessarily involving individual criticism.

Whether all the circumstances forbade useful action among these Indians, or whether a man of energy and ability

could have done more than has been done, are not questions with which I am concerned, nor of which I have the means of judging at present with much precision, but I wish something more had been attempted in the power of the Coast Superintendency, for the reasons I have stated.

In the other portion nearer Victoria, on both sides of the Gulf of Georgia, where reserves were laid off 3 years ago by the Reserve Comm^{ee}. I have been surprised lately to find that the action of the Reserve Comm^{ee}. has not been followed up by suitable effort to make the Indians cultivate their lands. If the nearest reserve to Victoria is taken first, and an inquiry made successively to more distant ones, this remark will hold good. The Provincial Gov^c. will point and are pointing to such reserves, and may say that they are too large, though really they are small. The Indians should be visited and urged and warned, and in short should be compelled to use the land, and it should be subdivided and then the industries would get their reward, and large ones who roamed about Pocolatching would be known. It is an answer in most of these cases to say that nothing could be done until the Reserves were surveyed and conveyed. There has been abundance of work in reserves near Victoria easily accessible without much cost - old reserves simply confirmed or moderately extended by the Comm^{ee} in surveyed districts, and the boundaries of which were well known.

I am directly concerned in complaining of this inaction

having committed myself to the decision that these resources were suitable. If the Indians are not made to use them (and I know this merely requires energy and judgment) the Prov. Govt. will say that the resources are unsuitable.

I mention these matters because my decisions as Reserve Com^{ee} are based, and are being based, in part, on a reasonable view and hope of the requirements of the Indians when left entirely to themselves. It is necessary that I should ~~should~~ look a little into the future, and assume that the Indians will be encouraged in a wholesome way, and also directed, in working towards a better condition than they now are in, ^{see} paragraph below.

I am Sir or Mr
S. P. M'Court, Com.

P.S. ^{to} Copy of my letter of this date to Dr. Powell on some of the foregoing subjects so that you may have
please before you the other side of the question, if there is any other side.

Yours

The Hon
the Capt. Genl.
of Indian Affairs. Ottawa

I beg to enclose copy of my letter of this date to Dr. Powell on some of the foregoing subjects, which coming under my observation cannot from their gravity, be passed unnoticed, so that you may have placed before you by that gentleman the other side of the question, if there is any other side.
For Postscript see page 90,

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

Sackville Thornton
Abergavenny
11 Novr 1879

Sir,

The work which I am carrying on as Reserve Com^{ee}, though directly connected with land, involves of necessity some general examination and consideration of Indian affairs, inasmuch as my decisions must be based, in part, on a reasonable view of the requirements of the situation, and of the Indians themselves, when their affairs are well administered.

The experience of the Commission in a part of the Coast Superintendency in 1876 & 1877 suggested various things to my mind, but I require the additional and ample experience which I since have had to enable me to form reasonable opinions with respect to many matters, which occupied my thoughts, notwithstanding my absence in the Fraser Superintendency.

I now know the requirements and condition of the Indians from the south of Vancouver Island to its extreme north, including the mainland coast up to Cape Flattery, and my opinion is the same as that expressed by Mr. Vankoughnet in his official report last year, to the effect that in the Coast Superintendency, as in the Fraser Superintendency, the arrangements are not suited to the circumstances.

This statement may be made without unkind

criticism, but it is a most grave matter that the condition of so many Indians within easy reach of Victoria and in the heart of the Coast Superintendency should be in the unsatisfactory condition in which they are, and which is worse than any group of Indians which came under my examination in the Interior of the Province.

Having formed this opinion I think it is the kindest and frankest way to mention it to you, so that you may if you think fit, put the Sup. Gen. in possession of any contrary or other views which you may yourself have formed, if you have formed any such respecting the matters in question.

The selection of Victoria as a place of residence for the Superintendent of the Coast Division is unfortunate, for there are no Indians at Victoria who need special attention and the residence of the Superintendent there draws Indians either on visits from distant places.

An Agent should not have permanency anywhere, but should be always on the move. The last place at which he should be stationed is Victoria, which is near one end of the Coast strip, forming an Indian Superintendency, more than 500 miles in length on an air line.

This fact also makes Victoria a very inconvenient place from which to dispense medical aid.

Many poor creatures of course do go to Victoria for medical help, but it must be a considerable tax on their Indians and on what strength remains to them to undertake such a journey and to remain for any time at

Victoria, or away from home. I find sick or injured Indians in almost every village.

Victoria of course should, with other places, be an broader within the attention of a Superintendent, but the principal field of work, so far as my observation enables me to judge, should have been on both sides of the head of Georgia, and in particular among the Kwakwaka'wakw people north from Cape Mudge.

If instead of residing in Victoria the arrangement had been that you had toured by schooners or canoes among these Indians, who are in the very heart of the Superintendency, for 7 or 8 months of every year for several years past, it is probable that great good would have resulted, as regards the moral and physical health of the people - particularly the last named - who are the most indolent and morally degraded in the Province.

I do not find that any practical remedy has been applied to such great evils as the custom of the "Pacatch" whisky drinking, or the practice of prostitution, which latter is closely connected with the ^{two} first evils named evils. So far as I can ascertain, all these evils are as rife now, as when Canada took charge of the Indians. If they are not so obvious it is because many of the tribes have largely diminished in number. I think the "Pacatch" is increasing. Cannibalism is not extinct. The people know that the Govt. disapproves of drinking, but the other evils have not been brought home to their appreciations.

I know that you have mentioned these in speeches during the short and rare visits

which you have been able to pay to the principal villages, but no effect has been produced, and indeed none could be effected from a mere expression of opinion on a formal occasion, not followed up by continued or often repeated intercourse such as would have been pursued under the efficient management above mentioned.

If the present condition of the mass of the Indians in the Coast Superintendentency is to be acquiesced in as unimprovable, it would follow that there is no need for any administration practising whatever the people being left to their fate, but such acquiescence would not be humane or just, and in my judgment, based on proved experience on parts of the Coast, is quite unnecessary.

The arrangements, at present, for bringing the weight of Governmental authority and influence, within a proper sphere, to bear on means for improving these people are, as above stated, unsuitable to the circumstances.

I have been surprised to find that the people generally have no active idea of what the mind of the government is, with reference to what is essential for the improvement of their condition. They dream about *Pallatches* and waste their property in distributions, and yet expect, and, I am told, have received presents from the Government.

I do not think that the visits of an Officer of the Department should be made in a gunboat. Such visits must necessarily be too hurried and formal to produce any effect, and, moreover, I submit

for consideration whether a practice which exhibits constantly and almost solely the idea of force to the Indian mind is one with which the Canadian host would wish to be associated. It is an old fashion I know, but a bad one. On the same principle an officer visiting the interior should have a troop of cavalry with him.

These, mentioned without detail, are a few of many matters which necessarily have come under my observation, and working, as I now am, in the heart of the Coast Superintendency, seeing what ~~is~~ is, and reflecting on what might have been, I cannot refrain from naming them to you.

There is another matter to which I wish to call attention, with which I have direct official concern. It is a long time since the reserves from Victoria up both sides of the Gulf of Georgia were passed by the Reserve Com^m, and I have been told, and I may say have observed, at least in places I have lately visited, that things have gone on as before, no suitable effort having been made to induce or compel the Indians to cultivate their lands. The settlers at Saanich and other places, easily and at small cost accessible, complain of the and the Provincial Govt. will point to it. Most of these are old Reserves in already surveyed districts and the boundaries were known sufficiently even before Mr Green's Survey.

I have committed myself by the decisions of the Com^m to the affirmation that these Reserves were suitable, and they are so, but I did not anticipate that the

Indians were to be left to themselves.

I had to look a little into the future, and to assume that the Indians would be encouraged in a wholesome way, and also directed, if necessary, with an officious impulse.

In conclusion, I may mention to you, as I am at present working in the Coast Sup^{ly}, that an attempt was made by the Prov. Gov^t to induce the Sup. Gov^t to prevent my examining this year the portion of the Sup^{ly} now occupying my attention.

After giving this act the fullest consideration, and examining it from all points of view, I am unable to understand it on any public or suitable grounds, and I therefore beg to ask you to be good enough to give me your idea of what the Prov. Gov^t could mean by taking such steps as regards a portion of the Province in which the Indians have not had an acre formally reserved to them, where the necessity for adjusting land matters is in proportion to the scantiness of the good places and the numbers of the people, and where as I have found, there are questions between the Indians in many places and white squatters, or applicants to purchase (not to mention Hudson Bay Co questions) which but for the railway reserve over a portion of the district, would have been, as some may still be, very troublesome.

The representation of the New England Co has given up the idea of working among the Kitch-Ke-Ats at present, as until the lands of the Indians are known he could not

recommend a location, and the Church Missionary Society is in the same position.

I have not been in any part of the Province where, under all the circumstances, an adjustment of land matters was more necessary, and this reconciles me to the severity of the work in canoes during stormy and wet weather, but at the same time it makes more inexplicable the above act of which I have not obtained any official explanation from the Prov. Gov^t, and probably will not do so until I reach Victoria again.

I am Sir, ever,

Dr J. W. Powell
Indian Agent
Victoria 3, For Postscript see Page 80, 89.

British Columbia
A. & R. Com^{ee}

In camp now, we to
10 Nov 1877

Okeef's case again
& Okanagan Lake 3

Sir,

In reference to this old dispute, more particularly explained in my Letter of 10 March last and which was the subject of a Letter last from the Indian Chief "William" enclosed in my letter of 26 April last, I beg to enclose now yours by you of 26 April last, I beg to enclose now a copy of a continued complaint just received from Chilko, who may be regarded as the principal Indian chief in the southern interior of the Province.

89

I hardly know what to do on this matter for, as stated in my above Letter of 26 Aprilth I feel that in continuing to assure these Canadian Indians that the matter which they complain of is receiving effective attention I am stating what is probably not quite true "so far as the Provincial Govt. is concerned."

I have not been able to bring myself to a repetition of that statement in reply to Chilkatetsu's letter.

I am Sir & so on
The Hon. S. C. M'Graw Min.
Supt. Genl. of Indian Affairs Ottawa

(Postscript to Dr. Powells Letter of 11 Nov 1879
See Page 82)

Mr. George Hunt, son of the gentleman in charge of the Hudson Bay Co. fort at Beaver Harbour tells me that cannibalism, by which he does not mean the biting of flesh from the arms and legs, but the devouring of entire bodies is practised by the Tsah. waw. tay. neuk, the Mah. ma. lilla. kulla and the hal. kwock. h. tribes, the two former being the largest and strongest of the whole group of Kwah. Kwah. tribes. He thinks that the authority of the Government could probably have stopped this long ago.

Sir D. G. M.S.

101

Postscript to Superintendent General's Letter of 11 Novr. 1879 See Page 71.

The Cannibalism mentioned at Page 15, and in my letter to Dr. Powell, was described to me by Mr. G. Hunt, a half breed trader of the Hudson Bay Co. who knows more about the Kwah. Kwah. tribes in modern days than any other white man. That it existed formerly is well known. Mr. Blackstock of the Revenue Com^{ee} when an officer in the Co. Service has seen an Indian killed and eaten at St. Rupert, but he thought the horrid practice had been entirely abandoned.

Mr. Hunt says that dead bodies have been eaten last year and for several years back, to his knowledge, for he saw the act on one occasion, by one or other of the tribes of the Kwah. Kwah. group known as the Tsah. waw. tay. neuk, the Mah. ma. lilla. kulla and the Mah. kwock. h., the two first named being the largest & boldest tribes of the whole Kwah. Kwah. group. He does not think that persons were killed to be eaten, but of course he cannot be certain of this. Those he saw eaten were supposed to have died natural deaths. They were not merely bitten at, but eaten and the bones flying to women to be picked.

The flesh, as he expressed it was allowed to become 'dry' before it was eaten. The bodies were, he understood, those of relatives of the persons who ate them, and so far as he knows, the idea was that Indians who were sick, or inclined to be sick benefitted in their health by eating their relatives. Mr. Hunt is the son

of Mr R. Hunt who is in charge of the Hudson Bay Co. Fort at Fort Rupert. He trades in a small schooner among the tribes in the service of the Company, and I believe that his statement is unexaggerated and correct. Some of the people, yielding to natural feelings of horror, have asked him to use his influence against the practice.

He thinks that the Government should, and could, have stopped it long ago, but nothing has been done. No officer of the Govt. has visited either of the above important tribes.

There was a hurried visit to the district in 1874 and another in 1879, but very hurried visits were paid over the beaten track of navigation kept.

These are during the whole summer steamboats passing about every fortnight within six and twelve miles of the head quarter villages of these two main tribes, and the place is less than two days from Victoria. The navigation is good for canoes, at least I am attempting it in winter.

These matters are not under my care, nor perhaps within my province - but I cannot help mentioning them to illustrate the defects of existing arrangements, and because when missionaries and others get hold of these facts, they are not unlikely to formulate them into charges of maladministration which could not easily be met or explained.

Salt E.W.S

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

To camp Beaver Harbour,
16 Nov 1879

Sir

(Intrusions on Pastoral Lands)

In giving my opinion, in letter 26 July last respecting the duties of a sub-agent in the interior, I mentioned among others - "very urgently, as winter approaches, the protection of the Indian winter ranges selected by the after much labour and cost, get damaged almost, in some cases, beyond recovery since my assignment of the lands. Last winter thousands of cattle were driven upon some Indian ranges. One or two I have seen this summer, and hardly recognise them."

The winter again approaches, and I have no doubt the above in time will be again repeated shortly, and these pastoral preserves will be completely ruined.

It does not seem to be desirable that the Dominion Govt. should have gone to expense in selecting pastoral lands for the Indians & further, in surveying them, and that when conveyed from the Prov. Gov., the lands, originally good for the intended purpose, should be, as many will be, quite spoilt.

The Indians will no doubt be dissatisfied, and the work will have to be done over again, but it can

assure you, it is a very difficult matter to find pastoral areas, as may be supposed, after the white settlers have had the free run of them for 20 years, wasting one and then going to another.

Owing to the different nature of the country in the west of Canada, perhaps it is not realized at Ottawa that here the fine natural pasture known as "bird grass" disappear entirely if overgrazed and the sage then comes up.

Some of the scabs drive large bands upon the Indian lands, and the Indians stand helplessly looking on. Their objections are not heeded.

If the Indian goes to a Local Justice of the Peace, probably the latter has a copy of the Indian Act, knows nothing of the position of the Indians or their lands, and in most cases is himself in a cattle owner. Practically there is no redress.

I respectfully express the opinion that it would save much trouble in future, were some steps taken by the Govt. to assist persons here to appreciate the fact that it is possible for Indians to have some rights to land.

This idea was never strong in British Columbia, and the acts of the Govt. in selling Indian lands, previously with their own formal consent, assigned to the Govt. for Indians, have further weakened it.

These intrusions on Indian lands in winter have the same effect, and I could give many proofs that an undisturbed state of affairs exists.

Following

the established practice of the Govt. to exhaust every effort before disturbing any existing interest, I last summer permitted a Chinaman, who had no license or papers, to continue his mining on an Indian settlement at Cameron Bar on the distinct understanding, however, that he was not to touch a piece which the Indians wished to cultivate. I gave him a map, and there could be no mistake. Scarcely was my back turned, as I have since been informed by a letter, than the Chinaman with 300 & others began to work on the said piece. The ground will be ruined for agriculture. The Chinaman, though without rights there, thus heard the Govt. The Indians go to a local justice, but nothing is done. They write to me. I have no control nor jurisdiction. They write to Mr. Lenehan, to him as know ledge of the locality nor the facts. The land is doubly Dominion land, for not only is it Indian land, but it is within the Railway Reserve.

Another case may be mentioned which came to my notice on my way down from Lytton. An Indian couple had a small garden patch by the roadside - his only means of living. A man driving cattle down the road tore his fence down and put his cattle in for the night. The Indian was buried - there was no redress.

What seems to me to be required is some action to prove that in law and in fact, an Indian has as much right to his property as a white man and that his land must not be taken and used at anybody's will.

The miner is here for a few years only. Some of the cattle owners say "good or bad four years wool grazing on the public lands. Take no more" meaning that he will have made enough and what the effect is on the lands he does not care.

But the Indian is the real inhabitant of the country; he always will be here, and that he should have a reasonable area of land for his requirements and be protected therein must be an object of solicitude, both Dominion Govt.

These few remarks have additional force in view of railway construction and the eagerness with which cattle farmers and drivers will carry on their business if construction begins.

The Indians will be pushed on one side, and their lands intruded on at will, unless some steps are taken immediately to ensure fair play.

The existing machinery in the interior consisting of local justices act as a rule well informed, and confused in their minds as regards Indian affairs, does not work well. The Indian generally complains of the administration of the law by the Justices.

I imagine that you will consider it desirable, however, to exhaust every means of utilising the ordinary tribunals of the Province, before giving judicial power to an Agent of your own, as permitted by the Indian Act.

This might have to be done, but, in the meantime probably some

improvements might be effected by the influence of a judicious travelling agent, under proper instructions, who might watch Indian cases in the Justice Courts.

In conclusion I express a hope that my Letter of 2nd May last commenting on an "Act to protect winter stock ranges" passed by the Provincial Assembly, will receive consideration in due time, as also the sale of Indian lands by the Prov. Govt.

The capabilities of the Indians in this Province generally are so hopeful, and they are so amenable to good influence after their land grievances are redressed, that it is a pity to permit open questions to mar the progress which I hope the Govt. will soon see established. This must be my excuse for occasionally recurring to subjects already mentioned in former separate letters.

I am Sir o r

S. G. M. Sprott, Comr.

The Hon. ()
The Secy. Gen. ()
Indian Affairs Ottawa ()

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

Sdt. Thornton
Rough Bay 21 Nov 1879

Sir,

I beg to enclose copies of my letter of 11 Oct last to Dr. Powell who is acting as Paymaster for the surveys and of that gentleman's reply of the 28th idem.

97

I shall be glad if you will cause me to be furnished from Ottawa with the required information, as I infer from Dr. Powell's letter that he cannot give it, and in its absence I cannot examine and report to you on the season's survey work.

The Hon.
The Sup. Com. of
Int. Affairs Ottawa}

British Columbia
Ho., Res. Commission

Sch Thon ton
Rouff Bay 21 Nov 1877

Sir,

Stationery,

J. 9754

As the stationery that was sent
for the use of the Com'tn 27 May 1878, will
not last much longer, I beg to enclose a
list of further requirements, which it will
be economical to have sent from Ottawa as
stationery is expensive here.

I am Seator
S. C. Sprout Co.

The Honourable
The Secy at State
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

98

95

Copy
British Columbia
Indent of Stationery (Estimated for 12 months)
for use of the Indian Res. Commission.

3 ¹ / ₂	reams f' cap plain	
2	" do ruled	
3 ¹ / ₂	2 ¹ / ₂ Cream note,	
2	Ivs Blotting Lilac.	
1	" medium Cartridge	
1	" Strong brown wrapping	
3	f' cap Letter Books 10 ¹ / ₂ 15 ¹ / ₂ + 2", about ¹ / ₄ " thick,	
24	plain Menus D 4 + 6 + ¹ / ₄	
250	Envelopes Large size	
500	Ds F'cap do	
1500	Ds Small green. note.	
1 dozen	Black Lead Pencils	
3 boxes	Stock Pens	
1/2 lb	red Sealing Wax	
6 Pcs	Red Tape	
4 boxes	Elastic Bands	Large size
4	do	do
4	do	do
100	Envelopes Linen faced, Large & small,	
		Sa G. M. Sproat Com.
Nov 18 79		

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

Schr. Thon to

transcribed 8 Dec. A. Cart & Bay 22 Nov 1879

See

It must be left to yourself to decide
in reference to the ending of the season's
work of your party in the field. You will
of course not continue work, if the weather
becomes so broken, as to disable the party

from giving the Government a fair return for the expenditure.

I refer you to your general instructions as to what has to be done with Govt. property remaining. It will have to be well cared for. Looking to probable future work, I do not think it matters much where it is stored, probably anywhere from Spences Bridge to Yale will be found suitable in regard to locality. The place and terms you must yourself decide upon.

It is unnecessary to say that the pay of your party will cease in bringing them in from the field. Your own clerical and account work it is expected will be well up and in such trim that a personal visit to Dr. Powell, who acts as Paymaster, will not be necessary as last year, for the adjustment of accounts.

It would seem reasonable that a few days or pay after a surveyor arrives at his home should be allowed for the arrangement of his papers and accounts, but this must be limited and is not to be construed as weakening the general instruction that everything is to be well closed up during the progress of the work.

As soon as the requirements mentioned in your general instruction are complied with and you put me in possession of all necessary Reports documents and accounts or copies of accounts, I will examine and pass them, if correct, without loss of time.

You should see that they are posted, addressed to no Victoria, and they will reach me in the Commission bag, which is regularly sent to me by steamer. Similar letter sent to Mr. Mohun C. B. & the Great Com-

British Columbia.
Indian Res. Commission.

In camp, Salmon River.

24 Nov. 1879

(Summary of Year's Work)

Sir

I may at this time summarise what the Commission has been doing during the year, to save you the trouble of referring to numerous separate letters.

The first work during the year was in Malaspina Strait among the Coast Indians known as the Shannons who sent me urgent messages relative to the sale of land close to their principal village. I presented work among these Indians until the steamboat "Leonore" which was my chief conveyance, was driven on shore, and so damaged as to be unable to proceed further, which indeed could not have been much longer possible in that part of the country, owing to the snowfall.

I returned to the Fraser River, and undertook such of the long protracted work as was possible at that season among the Lower Fraser Indians who had been passed over for two years by the Com. owing to the pressing nature of the land question in its interior.

After an interval in the early spring occupied in office work connected with Com. and Survey records & maps required for the two Govt. I started in April to carry on and complete the adjustment of land questions between Yale and the mouth of the Fraser, connecting the work above Yale with the lowest village of the Nekla-kaf, a name at

Spuzzum, which people had been dealt with during the previous year.

The Lower Fraser Indians inhabit what is known as the New Westminster District, a comparatively populous and very important district. There are many tribes, and I anticipated, and indeed experienced, great difficulty in finding means of adjusting Indian land questions in several localities. Some of the reserves were unsuitable and the good land near them had naturally been taken up by settlers.

The season was wet and the mosquitoes worse than they had been for many years, so that the work was of the most severe description.

It was necessary, however, to carry it through, as great inconvenience to both Indians and whites was caused by the long delay in examining the district. I exhausted every effort to provide reasonably for the Indians, without unnecessarily disturbing white settlers, even though they had merely squatted since the railway reserve was put on.

I think I may say that the intelligent settlers appreciate the difficulties which work in this district presented.

In two or three places the mosquitoes fairly drove the Indians and ourselves away, and in other places the water was so high as to cover the land which the Indians wished me to look at. With these unimportant exceptions, however, and a place not yet visited close to the American boundary, the whole Indian question in the New West.^{dist} district has been examined, and the work, as above said, connected above Yale with what was done during the previous season. This enables it to be said that the Indian land

question has now been examined, and as far as might be, adjusted along the whole proposed railway line from the salt water to 50 miles up the North Thompson from Kamloops.

Having to resume work on the Coast after finishing the New Westminster district I made the necessary preparations, adopting the means of transport afforded by a schooner, and, mainly, canoes, in preference to the former means, namely, a steamboat. I find that I do not lose time by not having a steamboat such as the "Génora" (formerly employed by the Com^m) as her supplies of fresh water and wood needed constant replenishing, and she could not face such weather as the schooner can make progress in. A larger steamer would double the cost of transport now being incurred, so that the present plan appears to be most suitable, though canoe travelling and camping in wet, stormy weather involves discomfort.

The work can be carried on outside, as long as there is little or no snow on the ground.

Between the time of leaving the New West. District and resuming work in the Malaspina Strait district, on the coast, above mentioned, namely in July, I attended the interesting meeting of the KeklaKapa much Indians at Lytton, having first invited the Ch. Com. of Lands & Works to accompany me.

The Indians much wished white settlers and particularly white "chief" to be present at their meeting, so that they might see how the Indians could do business.

On resuming work in Malaspina Strait on the coast

I found the Malloose and Hornalotis tribes waiting for me with the Nliammon tribe, and all very anxious with respect to their land adjustment.

The particulars, so far, of my work among those Indians are described in my letter of the 11 Oct.; and in another letter dated 11th of this month, I have given an account of the later progress of the Commission among the Kwah-kewch people therein also described. I am working among those people at the present time. The labours of the Comⁿ are much needed on this portion of the coast, and progress will be duly advised.

The two Surveyors Mr E. Morden and Capt. Jowett employed in surveying Indian Reserves in this province, under my immediate direction, have been working throughout the season in the extensive and important valley of Kelsa. Capt. Jowett has surveyed also the reserves for the Kermene Indians on Thompson River. Every effort has been made to reduce expenditure in connection with these surveys.

In conclusion I have the pleasure to inform you that, as a result of arrangements which I think, judging from experience, will be feasible, I hope to be able to advise the possibility, in the spring, of considerably reducing the cost of the Reserve Commission so long as it is working on the Coast - thus continuing the efforts in the direction of economy, which in conformity with your instructions, have engaged my attention as regards the work of the Commission and the surveys, since these come under my personal management.

It is not necessary in this summary, to advert to the several very grave subjects on which, as they came before me, I have from time to time made observations for the information of the Department.

I am Sir & so a

J. Fankoughnet Esq.,
Dsp. Sup. Gen^s of
Indian Affairs. Ottawa. Canada

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

In Camp. Solomon River
26 Nov. 1879

Discontent of Indians
at Williams Lake.

Sir

In reference to the above subject which was mentioned in my letters of per
margin and their enclosure, I now annex
1878 (May 6th) a clipping from a Victoria newspaper the
Colonist dated the 7th of this month con-
cerning a letter from William - the chief
of the Williams Lake Indians - stating that
May 5th of the Williams Lake Indians - stating that
the Indians are wearied by the neglect
of the Govt. as regards their land claims,
and that there is sure to be trouble soon,
unless these claims are satisfied.

I am surprised that
there has not been an outbreak by these Indians
sooner, but on a review of the facts, I do not
think that the Dominion Govt. can be blamed
in any degree if such an unfortunate cir-
cumstance should take place.

The case is perfectly well known
in this country, and has ^{been} reportedly brought by
me to the notice of the Provincial Govt., though
I have not had an opportunity of examining the
locality.

It is the case of a tribe or band of
Indians to whom no land whatsoever has been
assigned. On the contrary the land and the
water for irrigating it, in the place which the
Indians say is their old place, have been long
ago permitted to be acquired by a white settler,
and I have been told that there either is no
other available land or as other available land
that can be irrigated in the particular locality.

The Dominion Govt. has not done this a ^{legit} wrong;
it has been done by the Govt. of
British Columbia, and that Govt. should afford
redress.

I have ventured to recommend that
the Reserve Comm. should not visit Williams Lake,
because the effect would be that probably nothing
new would be discovered, and in the case of
an outbreak, the public might entangle the
Dom: Govt. with some imaginary responsibility
which would not properly be theirs. The facts should
be allowed to stand out clear, and such Govt.
should take what responsibility belongs to it.

At the same time seeing the
pitifulness of these poor people being, as they think,
reluctantly forced to break the peace, it would not
be your desire that anything should be omitted
which, under the circumstances, could reasonably
be done by any officer of the Canadian Govt.
to hasten an adjustment, and avert what might be
more extensively calamitous in its effects than

some persons suppose.

I think that everything has
been done which a humane Govt. could be expected
to undertake. The Dom: Govt. has, in effect,
said to the Prov. Govt.: "Suggest any way in
which we can help you in this matter; lay
down some rules for furthering the adjustment
desired. This case is only one of others
(examined and ^{are} examined by the Commission)
belonging to a class quite understood, in which
you have neglected to act, though action was
your duty, and in regard to which the Indians
may become confused and connect us - the
Dominion Govt. - with injustice. Tell us
what you will do about the water question, on
the land question at Williams Lake and other
places and we will meet you halfway though
the responsibility is entirely your own, - but
do not, looking to the facts connected with
other portions of this Indian adjustment,
entourage to force us to come under a burden
of expenditures in reference to this case, which
would be entailed on us by the necessity
of repeated visits to one locality; and,
moreover, do not expect that we will permit
ourselves to be associated in the Indian minds
with the injustice, of which they complain
at the hands of the Govt. of British Columbia."

"State what you will do at Williams
Lake. Will you go with the Comm. and examine
with him, and agree as a Govt. to some
action towards adjustment by compromise
or compensation by the Govt., if necessary, to
the white settler who, it is said, has been per-
mitted to acquire land and water to the

"detiment of the Indians".

"Will you do anything, and, if so,
what will you do?"

I am sorry to have to say, that so far as I know, the Prov. Gov. have not in any way responded to these reasonable proposals. They have ignored the facts and all agreement respecting the facts, and have simply said - "We want the Reserve Com. to keep on working in the interior."

The explanation, of course, is, that in this, and some other cases, it would be necessary to compensate the white settler, who perhaps by no fault of his own, has been so unfortunate as to be the instrument of wrongdoing to the Indians, and this compensation would have to be the subject of a vote in the Provincial assembly which, owing to the state of feeling in this country with respect to Indians, would not pass.

The question whether a moderate or a, or the repression of an Indian outbreak would involve most expeditious seems to be a question entirely for the Provincial Govt., as I imagine that public sentiment in Canada would not support any policy of harshness by Canadian forces against Indians, who have neither land nor water assigned to them after the colony has been established for 20 years, and who say that their old place has been sold to a white man.

A dispatch was addressed to me on this subject generally in May which I communicated to the Prov. Govt. It might be well to keep the Canadian view of these matters very clearly before that Govt. The Right Hon. Sir James Saunderson
The Secy. Genl. Ind. Affairs
Sir Wm. Spratt Com.

British Columbia.
Indian Reserve Commission,

Private, Sir,

In camp, Salmon River.
26 Nov. 1879.

(Things in general)

Adverting to my letter of this date, with a newspaper clipping as to the discontent of the Indians at Williams Lake, I think I am correct in stating that the Prov. Govt. cannot be in blame, whatever happens.

The only question that might be asked is whether the Dominion Govt. have not been more goodnatured than the case requires, in not pressing the Prov. Govt. in regard to certain matters? I do not of course know what may have been done, but it seems to me most necessary that decided action should be taken in the matter of the sale of Indian lands by the Prov. Govt. - otherwise the Indians will blame the Govt. of Canada for acquiescence.

I am placed ~~acknowledg'd~~ by some of these proceedings. I must uphold the character of both Govts. in the eyes of the Indians, but after the long delays in regard to open questions, I hardly know what to say to intelligent adult Indians who, in giving me their confidence, naturally expect to be fairly dealt with in return.

Is it actively realized at Ottawa what such a case, for instance, as the sale of the Osoyoos Indian lands amounts to?

The two Gov'ts, at heavy cost, and in the most formal manner, through their respective fully empowered representatives, visit Okanagan, explain all matters to the Indians and assign lands for their use on the spot. (see my Report 9 April 1879.)

There is no question of reformation by anybody or approval by anybody. The essence of the work of the Gov't is decision on the spot.

A considerable time afterwards the Provincial Gov't sold a large portion of the land to Mr. Haynes & pocketed the money.

The Indians sent the messengers, and I have done what I could to calm them, but time passes, and it is not difficult to imagine, until what feelings the Indians must regard the Government. They consider that they have been played with, and will soon be ripe, again, for anything that may happen, whereas very satisfactory relations had been established between them and the Government.

The people concerned are Okanagan - the same group of Indians as those who have disputes at the head of Okanagan Lake - namely the O'Keefe question, and the new question which the Prov. Gov. has raised. (See mine of 11 Oct 1879.) But for the friendly relations established with the chief Chilkoota, these Okanagan Indians would have probably taken matters into their own hands.

I send herewith a rough map, showing the districts of the Okanagan, the Shuswap and the Kekla Kap. mukts.

The Shuswaps so far as their land affairs have been adjusted

have little to complain of, but the Williams Lake affair would have their active sympathy.

It is by looking at the country as a whole in relation to the groups of Indians, that one understands the mischief of these proceeding which worry and excite the Indians.

Among the Kekla Kap. a mukts there are questions back as to land and water - particularly the very bad case of the Chinamans intrusion at Spotswood see Field Minstrel speech in mine of 18 August 1878, but these Indians are, generally, well disposed and continue to trust that the Gov't of Canada will enforce an adjustment of these open questions.

If the Sup. Gov. approves the Municipal Organisation of the Kekla Kap. a. mukts, it will be a great security to the Province, under any circumstances.

I do not mention Indian groups further to the west in the Interior for I have not worked yet amongst them.

Among the people mentioned, whom I have visited and know, it would be well that no open land questions should exist, and now that it is perfectly certain that the Prov. Gov. will give no help, but on the contrary add from time to time, to the number of these questions.

I respectfully suggest that it might be well for the Hon. Mr. to do what may be found necessary.

One of the most singular experiences I have had in this occupation is the almost impossibility of getting any information about the Indians

from white people living in their midst, and this is a fact which should be known to the Dept. so that mistakes may be avoided.

If any one professes to know ~~the~~ ^{any} of any group of Indians in this country, and he has views on any matter connected with them, he might be asked to make his statement in detail in writing, and then it could be examined. It would not be surprising if persons knew little of so old and complex a subject as Indian affairs here since 1858. I refer to the commonest facts of to day.

At Chillicothe I was told that the Indians would not work, and had not half a mile of fencing. The next day I saw over four miles of fencing. Most of it due to my informant's house or farm. I do not think that the man meant to deceive me.

I have been told at other places that Indians could not make irrigation ditches, when ingeniously constructed ditches several miles in length were almost visible.

These are singular facts and they suggest to me how difficult it must be to ascertain facts about Indians at Ottawa.

The Indians themselves cannot speak; their mouths are shut, so men say what they like about them and their affairs without fearing such exposure and correction as they would meet did they speak in the same way of any group of white men.

I feel bound to mention this, because, for instance, in the case of the excellent gentleman who reported this

Province at Ottawa they might unintentionally mislead. I can give a singular instance.

Mr Cornwall is one of the most honorable and intelligent men in this Province. He has lived for more than a dozen years with Indians around him, who like him, He would not do an unjust act. I have only lately read the Journals of the Senate, and find that Mr Cornwall defended the Colonial Indian Policy and acts here, on several occasions.

Speaking responsibly he also assuredly said what he believed to be the truth. But what are the facts? My correspondence which invariably understates the facts, shows that, everywhere, the very contrary of what Mr Cornwall stated might be affirmed. I have given date, facts & particulars, which everyone may examine and test. But the singular thing is that it would only be necessary to instance the very Indians close to Mr Cornwall's place along the wagon road and river between Cook's Ferry and Bonaparte.

The Cook's Ferry Indians number 282 (90 men 81 women 10 youths and 101 children)

The only piece of land reserved for them was a gravelly piece at the junction of the Nicola and Thompson Rivers £3000. No water whatever was assigned for irrigation. I need not go into details - my object being merely to point out that if a gentleman like Mr Cornwall, living among the Indians, falls unwillingly into error respecting their position - what information is likely to be gained from a prior man less favorably placed.

If the

Department could trust the information given by any one respecting Indian matters in his own neighbourhood, they might trust what given by Mr Bonnall, yet the facts are as I have stated them above, and no one will venture to dispute them with me, for I can if necessary put a stronger case.

Supposing that a rising took place at Okanagan Lake, it would not be a revolt against authority, but the despairing action of men suffering intolerable wrong, which the Prov. Gov. will take as steps to remedy. And notwithstanding the good relations established between the Okanagan and the Dominion Gov., any of these people should join, it would be caused directly by the distrust produced by the acts of the Prov. Gov. at Osoyoos and head of Okanagan Lake. I think these facts should be fully known, and it occurs to me to mention them & the position generally so that the Sup. Gov. may, should he think fit, repeat to the Prov. Gov. the general views of the Dom. Gov. as regards the Indian situation.

It would be true kindness to put such pressure on the Prov. Gov. as to cause them at least to understand what risk they run, and to undeceive them if they believe that the Dom. Gov. will get the Province out of Indian difficulties which they themselves may create.

The weakness and poverty of the Prov. Gov., their dependence upon a House of Assembly which represents electors whose interests, as regards the public lands sometimes clash with the reasonable requirements of the Indians,

and also the dread which the Prov. Gov. have of being called on to provide money to adjust certain Indian questions, not susceptible of compromise - are perhaps sufficient to explain, if not to justify, an inaction, which otherwise, would be inexplicable and is so much to be regretted.

I was instructed, last April, to report to the Sup. Gov. cases in which the Prov. Gov. did not reply to letters on Indian business within a reasonable time. I regret to state that there has been no improvement in this respect. The inattention may arise from business incapacity, or from indifference - probably both. It is, I fear, a fact which cannot be changed.

The inattention was the same during the existence of the Govt. preceding that of Mr Walker, and in the time of the Com. in ch. as well as since I became single Commissioner.

The British Columbia Land Act of 1870 was left to its operation only after certain assurances by the Gov. of British Columbia that the objections made to the Act by the Canadian Gov. would be removed by the agreement for the settlement of the Indian Land question by Commissioners.

(St. Gov. to Secy. of State 26 April 1876)

Notwithstanding the serious nature of some of the open questions connected with the Indian land question, they are but few compared with the very extensive area in which satisfactory adjustments have been effected, and I believe that if the Prov. Gov. would undertake that co-operation which they are legally and morally bound to give they would not find these open questions incapable of

solution, or likely to entail any very large expenditure on the part of the Prov. Govt. The difficulty is that they will do nothing, for any action in Indian matters might lose them some votes.

I have during the year received only one complaint from the Prov. Govt. namely, a complaint by settlers at Similkameen, which I dealt with in my letter of 25 Febt last.

I shall be glad to give explanations to either Govt. as to any assignment of lands respecting which explanation may be desired; and respectfully think that it is due to so large a mass of unrepresented Indians who cannot speak for themselves that their case and views should be known. It is difficult to understand how opinion can be formed by outsiders who have not a knowledge of the people & their stock, a knowledge of the character of the land, and of the purposes which the Indians wish it to serve.

The Commission cannot interfere with Royal rights, so that any complaints which may reach your ears refer, if at all, to grazing lands on the public domain. There would be a necessary opposition of interest between stock raising whites and stock raising Indians if the lands of the latter are to be defined, as a matter of fact most of my late work has been within the railway reserve, and the Prov. Govt. which has paid so heavily for these lands may surely assign reasonable portions thereof for Indian uses. The principles on which I have proceeded are stated in the printed "Memos on Indian Reserves in the District of Yale" and any objector may attempt, if he pleases, to controvert these principles.

I can honestly say, nevertheless, that no part of my work has been more anxious or difficult than the attempt to do what was conceivable for all concerned. It was undesirable to interfere with grazing areas which white people had been using, though they had no property therein, and though in the railway reserve, probably, they soon will be debarred from using these lands without paying something for grazing privileges.

From first to last the Reserve Commission has pursued a policy of conciliation and compromise in view of the practical impossibility of pressing extreme rights in adjusting difficulties of such old date, of a character so complex and varied, and extending over so great an area.

Every case has been fully examined, and in particular any open questions have been made the subject of a frank record and the points stated to the Prov. Govt. so as to save them trouble, and I am sure that in the whole correspondence with that Govt., there will not be found a hasty word or a perfunctory expression.

I was sorry to find, lately, that the Prov. Govt. had not conveyed any of the Reserves yet. The only way to get this done was for Dr. Powell to have gone daily to the Land Office and worried the A. Comrs, but it appears that no pressure was put upon them.

On one occasion I had to take a lodger in a street through which all the Ministers passed to their Offices, and to remonstrate with them in the street morning and evening in addition to calling at their offices for 6 weeks

before I could get a piece of business put through.

By the 13th Clause of the Home of Honor, the Indian lands have to be surveyed "from time to time" - "on application" of the Dominion Government.

L. VanKoughnet Esq
Dep. Secy. Gen. of
Indian Affairs - Ottawa

British Columbia
Ind. Rec. Commission

I am Sir your
S. C. M. Sprout Comrⁿ

Salmon River In camp
1 Decr 1879

Sir.

I beg permission to enclose original and duplicate accounts for the month of July last, showing \$1237¹¹ in hand 31 July.

Also enclose original and duplicate vouchers for the above, and notes theron.

The nature of the work on which the Comrⁿ has lately been engaged, namely, on the Coast beyond mail communication, except at a long coast, and also my not having been placed in funds month by month, have lately prevented my conforming to your instructions, relating to the transmission of monthly accounts, but this will be done, whenever possible.

For the remaining months of the above first quarter of the financial year, namely August & Sept., I have not received remittances, but enclose statement of account for those months.

With

respect to the December quarter I have received as per Mr. Sinclair's letter of the 3rd Oct 1879 a Cheque on the Bank of British Columbia for \$1500⁰⁰. "for expenditure on account of the Rec. Comrⁿ" "for Decr quarter 1879". but in the body of the Cheque are the following words -

"To meet payments on account of"
"Rec. Comⁿ on Surveys."

I think, however, that this is probably a clerical error in drawing the cheque, and that it may consider your intention to be expressed in the letter of advice, as Dr. Powell gets remittances for the "Surveys" and they do not come to me though I certify to the expenditure.

Under these circumstances I give credit for the above sum of \$1500⁰⁰ as remitted for Recⁿ purposes, and enclose statement of account for the December quarter.

To make matters clear, I further enclose a summary account from August to the end of December, and at that time I shall be glad to be placed in funds, as wages, but his &c and 6 months supplies obtained on credit must then be met.

I will then arrange to forward accounts and vouchers on the monthly plan, from August to Decr, to conform, as far as possible, to the official routine, desired.

I may remark that the nature of my employment prevents my sending the cheques to the Bank "as soon as received" (see Redstuk note on the official ^{printed} form it.)

I am at present on a stormy coast over a 100 miles from a Post Office.

The

The "accompanying receipt" mentioned in said letter, Form 6, did not accompany it.

Not knowing what wording may be required for the receipts, I send ordinary written receipts in duplicate for the \$1500⁰⁰ cheque enclosed in Mr. Sinclair's letter of 3 Oct 1877.

In the summary of the year's work sent to Mr. Van Koughout on 24 Nov 1877 I mention that "as a result of arrangements which I think, judging from experience, will be possible, I hope to be able to advise the possibility, in the spring, of considerably reducing the cost of the Reserve Com^{ee}, so long as it is working on the coast."

There is a choice of means of transport on the coast, and consequently a margin for management and economy. In the interior it is a simple question of so many pounds weight to be carried, and what horses are required for packing and riding.

The Right Honourable
The Sup^r Gov^r. of
Indian Affairs. Ottawa

I am Sir etc &c
St Gtr Sprout Com^{ee}

Copy

The Brit Columbia
Res. Commission

Received from the Govt of Canada Cheque No 0136 dated 22 Oct 1877 for fifty or hundred dollars on account of the expenditure for this Com^{ee}

Received Bl^t 8th Nov 1877
St Gtr Sprout
Com^{ee}

Dr. Cash Cash Contra Cr
Mr. Res. Com^{ee} Gtr Sprout in ex of all Rom Govt.
1879

July 3. To Rec^r for Ottawa 1500⁰⁰ July 31 By pr
J. R. Com^{ee}
Total Acc 1264.50

Survey

<u>Trans. Sup^r d^y</u>	
A. S. Gamble	72.60
J. R. Com ^{ee}	26.25
E. Bleekinop	3.03
P. Bleekinop	6.19
Wm Irving	3.72

Bal^c 31 July 123.71
\$1500.00

Aug¹ To Balance 123.71

Aug¹ Sept - Sept Quarter 1879

Aug ¹ To Balance	123.71	Sep 30 By Rec ^r also
J. R. Com ^{ee}		From 1 to 31 Aug ¹ 1879 1502.00
		1 to 30 Sep 30 ... 1260.00
		<u>\$2562.00</u>
		Sep 30 By Bal ^c <u>\$2438.29</u>

December Quarter 1879

Oct 3. To Rec ^r for Ott ^a by bl. 1500.00 Dec 31. By P. Acc ^r J.R. Com ^{ee}	
Dec 31 Rec ^r 2434.00	From 1 to 31 Oct 31 1502.00
	1 - 30 Nov 30 ... 1260.00
	1 31 Dec 31 ... 1302.00

Louis. McLean. Seal. Hly
getting Con. Encumbrance 62 -
Sarcoy & Sup^r d^y

J. Reddell. Com^r mail
for money (head of regular
Steam money & 6 ton lamp
on R. W. Coast

Total 24th Com^r Sunk 83934.00

Balance 31 Dec^r 82434.00

83934.00

121.

Copy

Summary Account showing Amount due
Indian Res. Commission as 31 Dec 1879.

September Quarter
Aug & Sept Month

24.38.27

December Quarter

24.34.00

Salmon River P.C.
1 Dec 1879 } S. M. Sproat 84872.27
in

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia

Salmon River
2 Dec 1879

Sir,

I enclose a Cheque of the Finance
Dept. of Canada for \$1500⁰⁰, 2-Oct, in my
favour & specifically endorsed to you, which
Amount please place to credit of my official
account.

The
Manager of the
Bk Br. Columbia - Victoria

Yours respcft.
S. M. Sproat Com³

Salmon River P.C.
2 Dec 1879

Michel
Lake Interpreter
I.R. Com³

Mr. Sproat has desired me to
send you ~~\$1000~~ a cheque for \$1200 which you
will be kind enough to send me a receipt for.
Hoping you are well and everything prosperous
with the Indians

I am as a
S. Geo Blenkinstoff
Soc'y I.R. Com³

122.

Salmon River P.C.
2nd Dec 1879

Dear Sir,

Mr Sproat has directed me to
send to Michel Interpreter, the sum of \$1200
as per Cheque enclosed to him.
Will you kindly give
him to sign & forward to me a receipt
for the above amount

Mr. J. W. MacIntyre,
Sys Atm

Address Post Master, P.O., Victoria

Salmon River
3 Decr. 1879

Sir,

I am duly in receipt of your
letter of 4 Novr which I have shown to
Mr Sproat who directs me to say in reply
that as you are not in funds he will
settle the account directly with the
Dept. at Ottawa.

J. W. Powell Esq. }
Geo Blenkinstoff
Soc'y I.R.C.

British Columbia
I.R. Com³

Notes on Accounts or Statements enclosed
in Mr Sproats letter 1 Decr 1879

No 2 A. S. Faowell \$72 60
26 20

In my note dated 10 July 1879 on accounts then transmitted, I said that it would not be necessary to continue the temporary employment of a regular surveyor beyond the middle of July, or thereabouts. I was able to dispense with his services on the 15 July, accordingly.

While employing a regular surveyor I did not require the services of the explorer, and, accordingly, See Voucher 1, credit the sum for the pay of the latter.

Vouchers 405-3⁰² + 6⁷² being telegrams chiefly to obtain tenders for stores &c for survey parties resulting in a great saving by the enforcement of competition, appear sufficiently to explain themselves, as also does Voucher No 6.

Sent for Mr Blenkinsop - Census Enumerator.

This gentleman has only been supplied with one new tent since the beginning of the work of the Com^{ee}, and it is only when the rain comes through his tent that he is supplied with a new one. This fact, suggesting the value of care taking, has made me dislike being responsible for the acts of surveyors who finish a tent in a season, a matter I have to look into.

The small charge of .8⁰⁰ for conveying mail matter in canvas when I am beyond mail communication, is, I think, properly chargeable to 'Survey's' as the surveyors have constantly to con-

to me, and I have to reply. I pay out of the Field allowance for the cost of obtaining the mail for the Com^{ee} proper charging 'Survey's' merely with a small part thereof, as sometimes I have had to send a mail on Survey business which it would not have been necessary to send at the particular time, so far as the Com^{ee} business proper was concerned.

Sd. G. M. Sprout

Memo,

Copy

Sc. Com^{ee} Thornton

Decr. 17-1879

Sd. Rec. Com^{ee}.

The adjustment of the lands of the Salmon River branch of the Eelatow (or Saick, kwi, taek) Indians comprises an assignment of the lands on both sides of the river from its mouth at Johnstone's Strait, up to about a mile above the present Indian village, and bounded east west by the mountains, also, the north half of Section 24 Township 6, and the north west quarter of section 18 Township 7 as will be more fully described in the formal assignment. This memo. is given at the request of the chief. The people have behaved well.

Sd. G. M. Sprout
Com^{ee}

surface

British Columbia
Indian Res. Com^{ee}

Salmon River
20 Decr 1879

Sir.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2^d inst. enclosing a copy of letter dated 22 Nov last from Father Mc Guckin of Williams Lake to yourself giving some account of the condition and feelings of the Indians in his district with reference to land matters, and to their white neighbours, and asking me to write to Father Mc Guckin to tell him when the Indian Reserve Com^{ee} may be expected to visit that section of the country.

In reply I have to thank you for your communication, and to inform you that the creation of the Prov. Govt in respect to irrigation water and other matters has been the cause of the absence of the Com^{ee} from the above district, and that inaction still continues.

Under these circumstances all that I can do is to refer the matter to Ottawa for the consideration of the Sup. Gov.

I shall be obliged if you will so inform Father Mc Guckin. The account he gives is very distressful, but there are duties devolving upon the Prov. Govt in this and other matters which have been fully and

repeatedly brought to their notice without attention having given to the requirements of the situation, and I am apprehensive that this neglect may go on too long.

The action of the Domⁱⁿ Govt, so far as known to me, has been such as to remove all blame from them, and from their officers, on matter what takes place.

I am Sir &c &c
J. G. L. S. G. L. S.
In-Semian Eng. J. G. L. S.
Ind. Super. H. W. H. W.

Copy

In the matter of the Petition
dated 26 Sept 1879 of Captain Baldwin
Arden Wake R.M. residing on Valdez St.
near Kamloops in British Columbia
praying, in effect, that the Dominion Government would consent to a change in the Indian Reserve on that Island,
the undersigned, in accordance with
the instructions of the Sup. Gov., 27 Oct 1879
has the honour to respectfully to submit
the following report.

1. The acting
of the Res. Com^{ee} in reference to Indian
lands on Valdez St. and to Cap. Wake's
claims in particular, were fully stated
in a letter from the undersigned, then
Int'l Com^{ee}, to the Hon. Mr. Sup. Gov. dated
in the month of January 1877 and headed
"Ty-ick-sun tribe" of the Chemainus group
of Indians, and to that letter the

undersigned respectfully crave reference should any further information than is contained in this present report be necessary.

2. Those Indians he may remark, however, much wished for two things at the time of the visit of the Reserve Commission.

They did not wish Capt Wake to be on the Island, and they wished to have all the Island for themselves.

Capt Wake was then, and it is believed, still is, the only white settler in the Island.

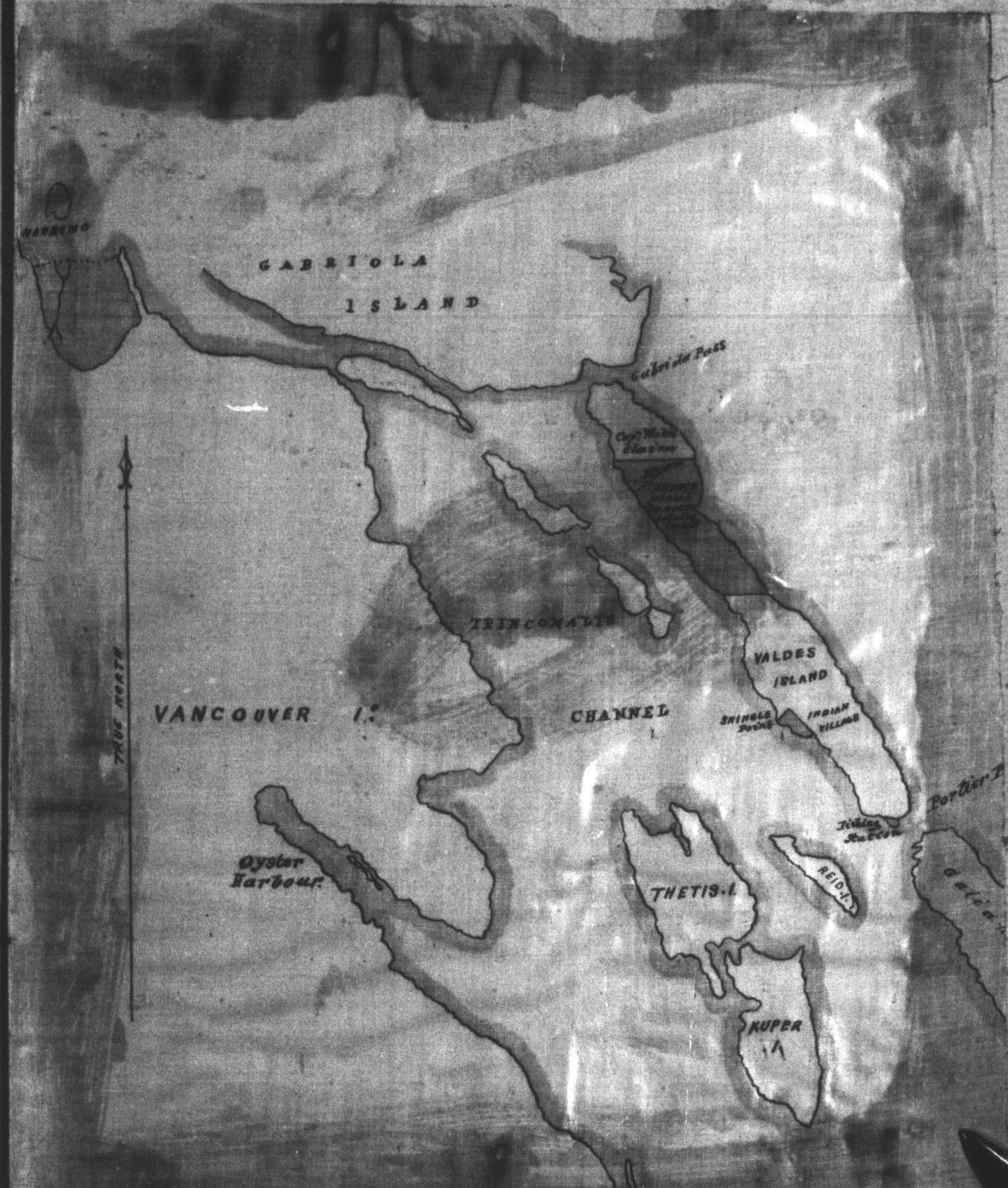
The Com^m rejected back the above requests of the Indians, and, in particular, carefully explained to them that Capt. Wake could not be removed, and they also explained the reason why he, as a naval Officer, got so much land as 760 acres - that is to say 160 acres by pre-emption and 600 acres as a naval Captain, and the Com^m took a lively interest in doing all they could for Capt Wake.

3. The decision of the Com^m accordingly was to the effect that the Indian Reserve was to be bounded "on the north by Capt Wake's Military Grant" thus leaving for that gentleman the full quantity of land to which, on survey, he might be entitled, as a pre-emptor, and as a retired officer in Her Majesty's service.

4. Capt Wake has since had his land surveyed by a Surveyor sent to the Island under an arrangement

between him and the Gov. Com., and he therefore knows where the south line of his 760 acres is.

5. The following sketch shows Valdez H., and, roughly the lands of Capt Wake and the Indians, respectively.



129

6, Captain Wake, thus being having been left in possession of all the land he was entitled to, as ascertained by official survey, it is not obvious in what respect he can consider himself aggrieved.

7, The honor of his position would show that Capt Wake is ^{intituled} deserves of acquiring a portion of the Indian Reserve, in addition to his holding of 760 acres, but there is no reason why this proposal should be entertained, while there are very strong reasons to the contrary.

The Indians would not consent to surrender their lands, and they should not be asked or urged to make this sacrifice, because the reserve, as it exists, is of moderate extent, and, like the whole of the Island, is not of a very desirable character.

8, It does not seem to be necessary to comment on the statement made by Capt Wake that the Commissioners sent a "Surveyor" to annual records in the Office

"of the Provincial Government" as no such act was done, and if done would have been invalid - the Com^{rs} having no power to create legal titles.

But a word or two, in conclusion, may be added in reference to Capt Wake's statements that the Com^{rs} virtually gave "all the best of an island 10 miles long to" "a single Indian." This appears to the undersigned to be a somewhat careless statement.

19, The Commissioners

have no power to give lands to single Indians, and have not done so in any case.

The Com^{rs} simply determines upon the areas to be assigned to the Dom. Gov^c. for "tribes" or "bands" or "nations" whatever the proper term may be, and the land on Valdez Is. was assigned to the Dom. Gov. for the old residents theron - the Ly. Ick. sun Indians, who

have died in 1877

18	Males	
14	Females	^{&} adults
1	Male	Youth
10	Male	Children
6	Female	W ^o

, 10,

The undersigned may further remark on the statement of Capt Wake, that that gentleman selected his 760 acres before the visit of the Com^{rs} to the island, and, as there were no settlers then on the island, it may be presumed that he made a selection to suit his purposes.

What the Reserve Com^{rs} did, as regards the Indian lands, was (see above sketch) to confirm to the Indians, immemorially resident there, their old village site and graces, at Shingle Point, and a small piece of rough timbered land around it for firewood - their potatoe ground at Skerwick, and their dog-fishing station in Porters Pass, and then to give them a piece of land as a cattle or sheep range - a rough, rocky, poorly timbered area of moderate extent on

6, Captain Wake, thus being having been left in possession of all the land he was entitled to, as ascertained by official survey, it is not obvious in what respect he can consider himself aggrieved.

7. The tenor of his ^{letter} statement would show that Capt Wake is desirous of acquiring a portion of the Indian Reserve, in addition to his holding of 760 acres, but there is no reason why this proposal should be entertained, while there are very strong reasons to the contrary.

The Indians would not consent to surrender their lands, and they should not be asked or urged to make this sacrifice, because the reserve, as it exists, is of moderate extent, and like the whole of the Island, is not of a very desirable character.

8. It does not seem to be necessary to comment on the statement made by Capt Wake that the Commissioners sent a Surveyor "to annual records in the Office" "of the Provincial Government" as no such act was done, and if done would have been invalid - the Com^m having no power to annual legal titles.

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have no power to give land to single Indians, and have not done so in any case.

The Com^m simply determines upon the areas to be assigned to the Com^m; Env^t for "tribes" or "bands" or "nations", whatever the proper term may be, and the land on Valdez Is. was assigned to the Com^m Env^t, for the old residents thereon - the Ly. i.c.k. sun Indians, who numbered in 1877

18 males	& adults
14 Females	
1 male	Youth
10 males	Children
6 Female	W ^o

, 10,

The undersigned may further remark on the statement of Capt Wake, that that gentleman selected his 760 acres before the visit of the Com^m to the island, and, as there were no settlers then on the island, it may be presumed that he made a selection to suit his purposes.

What the Reserve Com^m did, as regards the Indian lands, was (see above sketch) to confirm to the Indians, immediately resident there, their old village site and gardens, at Shingle Point, and a small piece of rough timbered land around it for firewood. Their potato ground at Skeneck, and their dog-fishing station in Porters Pass, and then to give them a piece of land as a cattle or sheep range - a rough, rocky, poorly timbered area of moderate extent on

which a single white settler could not make a living.

The agricultural area available for division among the Squatsum Indians will not, the undersigned thinks, be found to be more than about three acres per male adult - if so much. and Cap. Wake's proposal would practically deprive them of even this.

Sd. G. M. Sprout
Commissioner

Indian Res. Com. on
Mama. lilly. culla
British Columbia J.
27 Decr 1877

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commissioner

Mama. lilly. culla
28 Decr 1877.
Captain Wake's Petition

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 27 Oct last, enclosing copy of a Petition from Cap. B. A. Wake Valley J. and instructing me to report upon the statement made therein.

I now respectfully submit the enclosed report upon the said Petition. I cannot well say so in an official report, but the simple fact is that Cap. Wake wished to get possession of the Indians' potato ground at Skwuck, to increase the value of his own land. It is a similar

case to that of Mr Duncan at Cowichan. These gentlemen would never try to get land owned by white men, but the whole history of Indian lands in this Province induce them to believe that they may succeed in getting land of the Indians by pertinacity and misrepresentation, the Indians being helpless and unable to speak.

In these matters I should think that at least 50 letters have been written in this Province between Mr Duncan, Mr Wake, and myself, the Prov. Gov. and Dr. Powell, and these are a sample of other cases which, had I to report all of them to Ottawa, would engage the time of two Secretaries. I have not therefore sooner mentioned Cap. Wake's case, but I can assure you every attention has been given to it - in fact, I paid a second visit to Valdez J. to examine his statements - and he writes to Ottawa only after finding that he cannot succeed in his object after the questions raised by him have been thoroughly dealt with by the Prov. Gov. and the Indian Res. Com.

These applications will cease when steps are taken to prove that the lands of Indians cannot be acquired, merely because their possession is coveted.

The Right Hon. S. J. C. Treherne
The Secy. Gen. of
Indian Affairs, Ottawa

Sd. G. M. Sprout
Com. on
Indian Affairs, Ottawa

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission
Mama, lily, culla
28 Decr 1879

Sir,

I have received your undated letter purporting to enclose a letter from yourself to the Sup. Govr. of Indians affairs on the subject of Indian Reserves on Valdez Island.

No such copy was enclosed, but there was one from you 24th Nov 1879 to the Superintendent of Indians, Victoria, Dr Powell, on the subject of a fence and other matters.

It is proper to address Dr. Powell on these matters, as they are not within the province of the Reserve Com^{ee}.

I presume that you now know accurately the south line of your land comprising 760 acres.

Cap B. A. Drake R.R.
Valdez Islands
near Haines

I am Sir & so
Sd G. M., Sprout Com^{ee}

Ind Res Com^{ee}
British Columbia
Alert Bay
2 Janst 1880

Dear Sir

I am sorry that I have not been able to see you on our return to Alert Bay owing to your absence.

as there are various matters connected with the Indian land adjustment in this quarter on which I should have been glad to have had an opportunity of conversing with you

A. W. Hudson Esq^{rs}
Alert Bay

I am your truly
S^d G. M. Sprout Com^{ee}

Ind Res Com^{ee}

Schooner Thornton
Jan 7 1880

Mem.

By error in writing the
Mem. of the assignment of the
lands of the Salmon R. Indian 17 Dec
1879 the words

"the north half of
Section 27 Township 6" were inserted
instead of "the north half of Section
24 Township 6"

Sd G. M. Sprout
Com^{ee}

Indian Res. Com^{ee}
British Columbia
Appendix A subpage 142
Being a
Memorandum on the principles applied by
the Commission in assigning Indian Reserves
in the district of Yale which practically is
the Southern portion of the Province.

In my position
as Town Com^{ee}, and, subsequently,
as Single Com^{ee} it has been necessary

for me to give very careful attention to the instructions and wishes of the Govt. of B.C. Columbia in reference to the assignment of land Reserves for the Indians.

It is unnecessary to say that the government of the Province are greatly concerned with the Indian Land question.

The Indians pay as taxes to the Prov. Govt., they outnumber the whites, and the Province has to provide lands for them. B.C. Columbia is not rich in agricultural lands, and any unnecessary check to white settlement would be deplorable in view of the welfare and progress of this part of Canada.

At the same time it must be said that the Indian land question is one that must be settled, and the Prov. Govt. have stated that they "have been nearly all along not only to the advantage but to the absolute necessity" and urgent importance of a speedy settlement of all questions connected with the Reserve. The favourable influence which it would exert in the future cannot be overrated" (See ^{Proposed} Account Council Report 17 August 1875)

It has therefore been incumbent on me, as above said, to exercise mature and unbiased judgment in carrying out the arrangement between the two Govts, so that, while endeavouring in all cases to act in a liberal spirit towards the Indians, I should avoid what might impel the progress of white settlement,

See Printed Evidence Comptd by

In undertaking this grave a duty, the first requirement was to consider "the habits, " "persons and conditions of the Indians in different parts of B.C. Columbia, with a view "of determining some general principles upon which a fair distribution of the public "lands might be based." I was invited to do this under my instructions from the Prov. Govt. though by the Agreement between the two Govts the agreement was left entirely in the hands of the Reserve Comm^{ee}.

Accordingly, I have endeavoured to make myself, by study and observation, acquainted with what it was necessary I should know, and from time to time, have communicated my views to the two Governments concerned.

I have not been able to explain matters to the public in general, for that would be contrary to the departmental practice, and if I wrote letters to the newspapers, I might, perhaps, occasionally forget that the Indians, in many parts of the Province, get letters on Indian subjects read to them; and, owing to the relation of the Reserve Com^{ee} to them, they might extract meanings from my letters which were not intended.

In the case of the extensive district of Yale - type as it is of a still larger area of the whole Province not visited by the Com^{ee}. I thought it most desirable that the above general rule should be departed from, and that the public should be thoroughly acquainted with

what was being done.

In reporting to the Prov. Gov. on the work of the Com^{ee} during their first season in the Interior, I stated fully the general principles on which they had proceeded with respect, more particularly, to grazing lands in the district of Yale.

Mr Archibald Mackintosh, the Prov. Com^{ee}, himself a stock owner in the Interior, approved of this Report and signed it.

Neither from the Gov. of Mr Elliott, nor from that of Mr Walkem, have I received any intimation of dissent from the principles of adjustment laid down in that Report.

When appointed single Com^{ee}, I thought it desirable, in view of my great responsibilities, before undertaking work in the Interior, to print and distribute for the information of the public, extracts from the above Report, and in a short Preface, I said I would be glad to receive any suggestions or comments thereon from those who were acquainted with the subject, to assist me in performing my duties, so satisfactorily, both to the white settlers and the Indians.

The above printed statement was sent to both Govs. and widely distributed copies, in particular, being sent to the Provincial, Ottawa representatives, the members of the Provincial Assembly, to all the newspapers in the Province, and

to the majority of the settlers in the districts which the Com^{ee} was about to visit.

I have not up to this date received any intimation of dissent from the above principles of adjustment from any quarter whatsoever, while many, with whom I have conversed in search of information and counsel, have given willing assent to them.

I now enclose these principles by ~~sending~~^{attaching} a copy of the above printed statement to this Memorandum, so that the Superintendent General may have the whole matter before him in a convenient form, should it be the subject of conversation between him and any of our mainland representatives.

The Prov. Gov. has only had occasion, as regards the whole southern Interior of the Province, to refer two cases of complaint by white settlers to the Prov. Com^{ee} for report, and these were easily disposed of.

In conclusion I may add that the United States Public Land Commission, created by an act of Congress, has lately been taking evidence upon this coast in connection with the pastoral interests of the West. I append, also, some newspaper accounts respecting that Commission, as the evidence being given before it as to lands not largely dissimilar from those mentioned in the present memo, tends to confirm the conclusions

which I had formed by previous independent investigation.

Outside of the duty of negotiating with the Indians, calming their minds and obtaining their confidence, a large part of the work of the Reserve Com^{tee} is practically similar to that of the above Land Commission, for without the knowledge which they are seeking in reference to pastoral interests, the work of the Reserve Com^{tee} could not be well done.

The R. Hon.
The Sup. Gov. of
Indian Affairs Ottawa

A. G. W. Sprott
Commissioner

Mem: Isah-Kayb Expressman from
Comox

We met this man to day, 7 Jan 1879,
with our mail in Johnston Strait, between
Port Renfrew and Haro-San Juan Channel.

He was so much exasperated and known to
that it was considered necessary in order
to serve him, to give him a little spirits.

The Indians say this is the second
season they have ever known.

Schooner Thornton

Geo. Blenkinsop
Supt. Ind. Res. Com^{tee}

Copy
Telegram
sent from Kamloops
dated 18th Jan 1880

L. Van Koughnet

Asst. Sup. Gov. I have arrived at Kamloops
from the Coast and will give your various
letters attention immediately after getting
into office quarters at Rev. Westminster.

A. G. W. Sprott

MEMORANDUM.

FROM

The Bank of British Columbia,

VICTORIA.

27th Dec. 1879

To

G. W. Sprott Esq.
Hon. Gov. Com^{tee}
Victoria

Dear Sir,

I have today received a telegraphic advice
in your favor of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.)
which amount I have placed to your
credit

H. H. Manager

139

which I had formed by previous independent investigation.

Outside of the duty of negotiating with the Indians, calling their minds and obtaining their confidence, a large part of the work of the Reserve Com'te is practically similar to that of the above Land Commission, for without the knowledge which they are keeping in reference to pastoral interests, the work of the Reserve Com'te could not be well done.

The Rt Hon. Sir C. A. Sproul,
The Sup. Gen. of Indian Affairs Ottawa,

Dear Sir,
Isah Kayt Expressman from
Comox

We sent this man to day, 7 Jan 1879,
with our mail in Johnston street, to take
Port McNeill and Haro and Channel.

He was so much exasperated and benumbed
that it was considered necessary, in order
to serve him, to give him a little spirit.

The Indians say this is the second
season they have ever known.

Geo P. Clarkings
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S. S. Sproul

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	27 th Dec. 1879	Dom. Gov't Com'	Victoria

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which amount I have placed to your
credit

S. H. Manager

Tulcan 28 Jan^d 1880

Sr.
In reply to your letter of the 23^d inst on the subject
of account I beg to enclose extract from my letter
of 8^d

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission

30th Jan^y. 1880

Memorandum

It is essential that there should be no change of policy on the part of the Government in reference to the Land adjustment.

The Indians in all the districts visited by the Reserve Commission have had their great grievance redressed, and there is not the slightest danger of their rising against the Government. They confide now in the Government, and the tribes still unvisited are anxiously awaiting the same measure of justice dealt out to those who have been visited.

The Land question is the greatest question in the minds of all the Indians in the Interior, and any suspicion of a change of policy in relation to it, or of an intention to treat one class of the Indian population, namely the unvisited - differently from the people already visited, would probably unsettle the minds of both, and have a very bad effect.

Another matter is that the open questions in the already visited districts should be settled. These have been left over too long, and their existence is excessively inconvenient and some of them may under conceivable circumstances, cause serious local trouble.

With respect to the two matters above mentioned, the essence of the existing policy is that the decision, whenever possible, shall be "on the spot" (see agreement of the 6th Jan^y. 1876), and the general principles hitherto followed in assigning reserves in the Interior will be found in Appendix A to this memorandum.

A list of the open questions needing attention will be found in Appendix B

(yds) G.W.S.

Sir.

Victoria 28 Jan 1880

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of accounts I beg to enclose extract from my letter
of the 8th

British Columbia

Indian Reserve Commission

Memorandum30th Jan'y 1880

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in assigning reserves in the Interior will be found in
appendix A to this memorandum.

A list of the open questions needing attention
will be found in appendix B

(sgd) G.M.S.

Appendix A

See page 134

Appendix B to memorandum 30th Jan'y. 1880. Ind. Res. Com^{ee}
B.C. being a statement of open questions

Case of Robert Hughes Chemainus (see letter of Mr. McNeilly
to G.M. Sproat 21st April 1877 to the Hon: The attorney gen.)
2 years and 9 months before
the Provincial government.

This is a question as to the right of Mr. Hughes to a piece of land which runs inconveniently into the reserve and is claimed by him under what is known colloquially as an "oyster letter" given by the old Colonial Govt. The legal adviser of the Commission does not think that Mr. Hughes has any title.

Timber Privilege for the Seashell Indians of Tzouc's Inlet,
see letter of G.M. Sproat to the Provincial Secretary
Decth. 1876 and copy of Commissioners Journal Report
page 13 sent to the Prov'l. Secretary

3 years before the Provincial government
these excellent Indians having but a small amount

of arable land in their district were very anxious to have a portion of timber land and to follow the industry of logging, and the Commissioners in this the first application of the kind, referred it to the Provincial government.

Case of C.O. Neafe Okanagan, brought before the Hon: The Attorney General in Jan'y. 1878 and in letters of G.M. Sproat to Chief Com^{ee} of Lands and Works in various letters and telegrams especially in letters 4th May 1878 and 5th March 1879 (Copy of which last was sent to Ottawa 10th March 1879)

33 months before the Provincial government.
This is a serious case likely at any time to lead to local trouble probably accompanied with bloodshed.

The old Chief Chilko who with whom good relations exist has presented inconvenient action so far. The gravity of the situation will be greatly increased if the Greenhow Case (see page 148) should really be raised and become known to the Indians.

Irrigation water question in letter of G.M. Sproat to Prov'l. Secretary 22nd April 1878 and to the Chief Commissioner of Lands 24th July 1878 - particularly ^x Field minute enclosed in the letter - and see other letters say to Prov'l. Sec'y. 28th July, 15th Augth 1878 & to the Capt. Genl. 21st April 1879 and 7th Decth 1878 and Nooth 6th 1878

^x This Field Minute gives a brief of the earlier history of Indian affairs, and may also be referred to as regards the irrigation water question in general - Copy was sent to Ottawa 30th July 1878

see next page

The irrigation water question admittedly, is difficult, but it is one that must be settled for the land is of small use to the Indians without water. I have settled the question in various places by inducing settlers to give up a portion of the water recorded by them, but where compromise is impossible, the question manifestly, is one which the Provincial Government should take up, as no Reserve Commissioner without reference to that foot could undertake to define such questions as the following.

What is the nature of the right to water acquired by a record? The popular notion among settlers is that the water they record is as much theirs as the land pre-emption is. Mr. McCright Z.C. inclines to the opinion that the record is merely of the nature of a revocable licence, and that a man's ditch outside a man's own land would require to be backed by deed.

What is "an inch" of water for agricultural purposes in British Columbia? It would appear from Mr. Mokuni's report sent by me to Ottawa 6th Novth 1878, that the answer to this question requires consideration.

A settler irrespectively of the quantity recorded, is entitled to use only what he can, "without waste". How is the question of "waste" to be determined? of what construction must the water-channel be to prevent loss or undue loss from seepage and evaporation? Must the ditch be flumed? In some places there would be enough, perhaps, of water, were it saved in transit.

Is a man entitled, (where there is a scarcity of water for the agricultural purposes of whites and Indians) to record water for other than agricultural purposes? say milling? Usually, in such cases, the water driving a wheel can be returned to the stream.

Is it lawful in British Columbia to take all the water from the natural bed of a stream,

to the prejudice of others, say Indians, living lower down the stream?

I have been prepared to undertake personally or with the assistance of an engineer, the adjustment of the water question, could I be instructed on these and other points, and no doubt, if settlers understood their real position as regards water, a compromise might in many cases be made.

I suggest that the Provincial foot state its views, and either leave the water decisions locally to the Comm^t. and Surveyor who will travel with the Comm^t, or send a surveyor specially with the Commission at the expense of the Provincial foot.

By the Land Act the District Assistant Land Commissioners are the officers who settle water questions between whites, but in the Indian cases I doubt if these officers could spare the time to visit possibly many distant places.

Case of Water Record of Mr. P. Park, Cache Creek (see letter of J. H. Soper to Chief Commissioner of Lands 28th July 1878)

18th months before the Prov. foot.

The record was accepted by the recorder "subject to Indian requirements," but I brought the matter to the notice of the Prov. foot.

Case of Chinameen who have intruded on Indian lands at Spahatsun Flat Thompson River, see letter & Field Minute to Chief Comm^t of Lands 18th Aug 1878 Field Minute sent to Ottawa also 18th Augth 1878

16 months before Provincial foot.

This case much requires adjustment. I have proposed the most easy course for all concerned, namely cancel the chinameens record, and then in half an hour I could, on the ground draw lines that would not much hurt

the claimants improvements and satisfy the Indians. If the Dominion Govt. has to eject the claimants they would probably be ruined, for which there is no necessity.

Sale of portion of Indian Reserve at Cowichan (Morrison's Case) see letter to Chief Commrⁿ of Lands 28th March 1878. see also my letter to Ottawa 1st May 1879 and 17th May 1879, with enclosures.

22 months before the Prov. Govt.

This case does not involve much land, but the district of the Govt. of the part of the Cowichan Indians makes it undesirable to do anything to add to it.

The land sold was formally assigned as part of the reserve, and maps and decisions sent to the Govt. and to the Indians long before the sale, which thus was illegal.

Sale of land at Cowichan (Sutton's Case)

2 years before the Prov. Govt.

The land sold was a portion of the Indian Reserve duly advised and mapped to the Prov. Govt. and to the Indians a year before the sale which thus was illegal.

Case of E. Daigreau, Similkameen. see letter G.M. Spratt to Chief Commrⁿ of Lands 13th Feb 1 1879

The Government accepted a pre-emption record for land previously assigned as a reserve, but the man in inquiry retired and gave up his claim and this could now be cancelled by the Government.

Sale of principal portion of Osooyos Reserve by the Prov. Govt. to Mr. Haynes (see letter of G.M. Spratt to Chief Commrⁿ of Lands 9th April 1879.

See my report 9th April 1879, sent that date to Ottawa.

10 months before the Prov. Govt.

This is a most serious matter in itself, and with reference to the feelings of the Okanagan Indians who are nearest to the frontier and who have the O'Klapo (and may have) the Greenhow case to trouble them

further. So far they have acted patiently. The Dominion Government should eject Mr. Haynes failing the cancelling by the Prov. Govt. of the grant, which I am advised was illegal. Little can be done with the Okanagan until these matters are settled.

The Provincial Government should, I think, be asked to make progress with the conveyance of reserves assigned and surveyed. They have had sketches and field notes since 20th May last.

Case of Thomas Greenhow. see my letter to Ottawa with enclosures 11th Octth 1879.

The Provincial Government will surely act with candoorance if they raise this question, it having been arranged by their direct authority.

I could not answer for anything the Indians might do if they became aware of it - the place being an old favorite place of theirs and especially dear to several of the most influential Chiefs. I hope the Provincial Govt. will re-read the papers and advise me.

On 18th July 1878 and at other times, I have mentioned to the Provincial Govt. the policy of making land and water records "subject to Indian requirements" until the reserve Commrⁿ has passed.

It is singular that I have been able to make adjustments at all in districts where white men have been pre-empting land and recording water up to the date of my arrival. This of course has added much to the trouble and labour, and the Indians regret to see sometimes places pass into other hands which they were willing to show to me on my arrival.

The Adams Lake Indians, South Thompson River, a moral industrious people, have only two or three acres of irrigable farming land per head and there is a piece near them - touching their reserve in fact - which I think has become vacant since the visit of

the Commission by its abandonment by Mr. J. Waller whom the Prov. Govt. permitted to acquire land elsewhere - I greatly wish this piece could be added to the Adams Lake people's land, and I feel sure if the Prov. Govt. knew these Indians and the circumstances, they would be glad to give them an opportunity of increasing their cultivation. The Commissioners could not find sufficient land for them.

The "Winter Stock Raiges Act" still appears to me to be an act which may produce its effects, bearing the unadjusted condition of the land question.

Permitton has been given by a Provincial order in Council to a local Board under this act at Cache Creek which is within the Dominion Railway Lands. Can this have any effect?

The village of the Shakoos Indians was included in a timber lease and subsequently timber land which like the She-Shells (page 2) they much wanted, was sold close up to the village though their wishes had been repeatedly mentioned by the Reserve Commission.

This is a pity because the people are industrious and really meant to work, and trees cut by them are just as good to Saw Mills as trees cut by any body. On beginning work on the Coast I made great exertions to try to find a piece for them elsewhere, so as to avoid raising a most difficult question between the foremen and I think I succeeded in getting a piece much inferior but which will satisfy some of the people.

I have not noticed in the "Gazette" any crackling of the establishment of the highway through reserves at Chilcotin mentioned in mine.

of 24th May 1879, and declared by the Govt. to be illegal. It is not likely that the warden & council in Chilcotin will take action but they should not be allowed to retain the supposed authority in their hands.

Probably the Prov. Govt. have overlooked this matter. I do not remember at the moment any other open questions requiring discussion and action.

The water question, and the questions of the 0-500-40s Reserve, the O'Mafe and Gros Ventre at head of the Okanagan Lake, and the Spokan Flat question, are very important among the foregoing.

(cont'd) G. M. S.

Indian Reserve Com't

Victoria 3 Feby 1880

Sir

Under my instructions from Ottawa it appears that in future the money for the requirements of this Com't has to be placed to your credit and remitted by you to me from time to time when necessary - the account and vouchers hereafter being sent to you for audit.

The date which we agreed upon in conversation should divide the old from the new practice was the 31 January.

It will facilitate audit, and the arrangements generally, to understand before hand the routine which it may be desirable to adopt, and I am willing for information on this point.

The plan

of making an allowance in full has the advantage of saving much time and trouble in elaborating official vouchers for small payments.

There will be required while in town my own pay and board and the same for Mr. Blenkinship. I shall also require the services of a copyist and a draftsman, and if work has to be prosecuted in the interior, as you state, in early spring, no time should be lost in making the necessary investigations and copies of documents and maps at the Land Office for the whole country that may be visited.

J. W. Powell Esq Esq
Genl Secy Victoria

I am Sir
Your obdt Servt
J. W. Sproat

Capt J. W. Morris
Sir,

I beg to hand over to you the Schooner Thornton chartered from you.

If you will be good enough to send in your account it will be paid as soon as funds are received from Ottawa.

Your obdt Servt
J. W. Sproat

67

Indian Reserve Commission

3rd Feb^r 27 1880
Victoria

Sir,

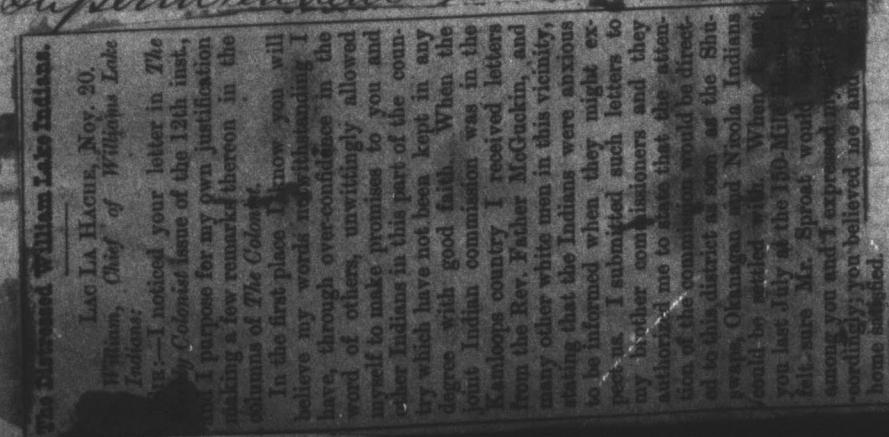
I have only now received your letter of the 12th Decr on my arrival from the Coast.

I write this merely to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to say that I will look into the matter you mention as soon as I can. At present I have a great deal of office work in arrear, with which I am now occupied.

I am Yours truly
Samuel Green Esq
Challinckto

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria British Columbia
Feb 4th 1880

In the matter of a letter written by Mr Archibald McMurtry, 20th Nov 1879, to William the Chief of a tribe of Indians at Williams Lake British Columbia, and published in the "Daily Colonist", Victoria, B.C., on the 6th Dec 1879, the undersigned, whose attention has only now been drawn to that letter, begs leave respectfully to make the following comments for the information of the Right Honourable the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs



(For remainder
of letter see back
of file 259)

of making an allowance in full has the advantage of saving much time and trouble in elaborating official vouchers for small payments.

There will be
received while in town my own pay
and board and the same for Mr.
Blenkopf. I shall also secure the
services of a copyist and a draftsman,
and if work has to be prosecuted in
the interior, as you state, in early
Spring, no time should be lost in
making the necessary investigation and
copies of documents and maps at the
Land Office for the whole country that
may be visited.

I am Sir
Your ob't Servt
S. G. Sproat
Genl. Sup't, Victoria

Capt J. W. Wood
Sir,

I am Sir
Your ob't Servt
S. G. Sproat
in

Victoria 2nd Feb 1880.

I beg to hand over to
you the Schooner Thornton chartered from you.

If you will be good enough to
send in your account it will be paid as
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Your ob't Servt
S. G. Sproat
in

Indian Reserve Commission

3rd, Febrd 1880
R. Storrs

Sir,

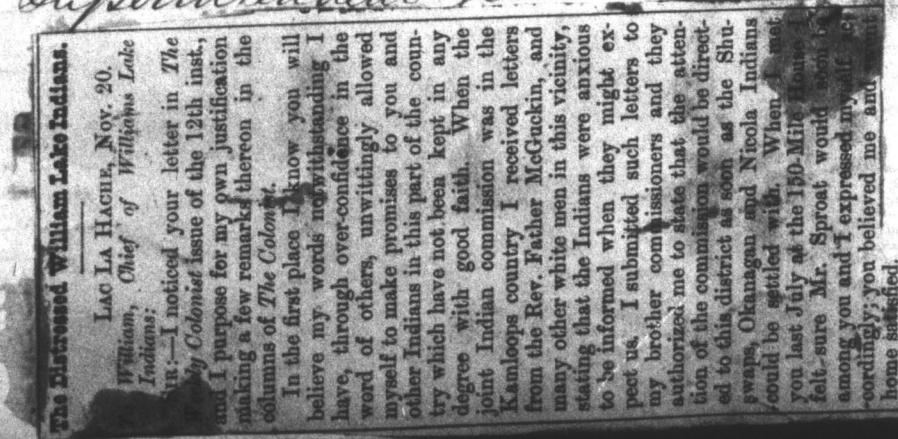
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Samuel Green Esq
Chilliwack

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria British Columbia
Feb 4th 1880

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McKinlay, 20th Novth 1879, to William the Chief
of a tribe of Indians at Williams Lake British
Columbia, and published in the "Daily Colonist,"
Victoria, B.C., on the 6th Decth 1879, the undersigned,
whose attention has only now been drawn to that
letter, begs leave respectfully to make the following
comments for the information of the Right Honourable
the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs:



(For remainder
of letter see back
page 152)

With respect to the above, the undersigned states that so far as he is concerned, and so far as the Reserve Commission is concerned, Mr. M'Kinlay's statement is entirely without foundation.

The manner of communicating with the Indians was one of the first considerations in carrying on the work of Reserve Commission and the rules adopted have had much to do with the success of the work.

In dealing with Indians on the spot, no individual Commissioner was allowed to speak to the Chiefs or matters of business unless all the commissioners were present. No messages on business were sent orally to the Chiefs through Indians, lest the message should be distorted. Communications with Indians at a distance have invariably been made in carefully worded letters from the Commission sent through the District Magistrates or through clergymen, and recorded in the books of the commission.

So stringently have these rules been followed that, when Mr. Anderson at the close of the 1877 season deviated 25 miles to see the Kermess chief, and rejoined the Commission two days afterwards, it was recorded in a special minute, instructing him what he was to say and what he was not to say. But for the transaction of business in this district, firmly manner, and dealing with the people in groups and taking them as they came, without to the desires of self important chiefs or to the supposed need of visitations off the route, to special places, the work of the Commission would have been confused and more expensive, and the work of the surveyors following the Commission would also have been spoiled.

The Kamloops group of the Shuswaps was,

for reasons of policy first dealt with - next the Okanagan groups - then the Sekla Kapa-snaks, and subsequently the Lower Fraser Indians.

Does Mr. M'Kinlay wish to be believed that the Reserve Commission, on first undertaking work on the mainland with a certainty of several years work before it among the above mentioned people - a war imminent and the whole future uncertain - was so foolish as to bind itself, several years ahead, to visit an isolated tribe nearly 200 miles from Kamloops?

Had any such obligation been incurred, for any special reasons, the fact would have been receded and would have been communicated to the Indians through the Magistrate of the District, not in a private letter from an individual Commissioner.

I well remember Mr. M'Kinlay stating that the Indians near his place of residence, were anxious to know our movements, but from all parts of the country, similar communications came, and to all, the official answer of the Commission was the same, "we are doing our best - the country is extensive" - be trustful and patient, and you will be "visited by and by."

So much upon the matter under review, up to the acceptance by me of the office of single Commissioner.

Mr. M'Kinlay at that time said to me on parting, "I suppose we shall see you up my way by and by" To which I replied "no doubt" He then said "I do not envy you your work, I would not undertake it alone for \$100,000 in cash"

I have had no other communication with Mr. M'Kinlay on the matter since that time. He is one whom

personally & respect, but I could not send an official message through him to any tribe of Indians - supposing I sent an oral instead of a written message, which I would do.

All communications respecting Williams Lake affairs have been made by the Reserve Commission either through Mr. Lenihan, or Mr. Lang-Mearns, the local Justice of the Peace, or through Father McGeuchin of Williams Lake, whom I have personally seen when engaged employed in the New Westminster District, and with whom I have conversed on Williams Lake matters.

I have advised both Governments, from time to time of every piece of information that has reached me from the authoritative sources above mentioned - Mr. Lang-Mearns - and Father McGeuchin - and have sent copies also of my letters to these gentlemen, and further, I have kept Mr. Lenihan duly advised.

On 12th May 1879 I wrote as follows to the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works:

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Gage's letter of the 7th instant, and notice that the information in your possession relative to the discontent of the Indians in the Nation" Interior agrees with that communicated by the Reserve Commission on the 6th and 13th May 1878 "to the Hon. The Provincial Secretary, and to yourself" on the 23 June 1878 and 20th March and 26th April "last" -----

Into the situation of affairs thus defined by consecutive official correspondence it appears that Mr. McKinlay, a gentleman occupying a private station and without the semblance of any kind of authorisation, has intrusively entered,

and not only has taken upon himself to give assurances to the Indians but has written a letter to the Chief containing most gross misstatements and imputations, and having written that letter, he has had the incredible recklessness to publish it in the newspapers.

He then appears to have proceeded to Victoria, and met a number of "old wise men" who opened a correspondence with both governments, showing the miserable manner in which the Indians have been treated in this Province. Upon this I would remark that it is somewhat late in the day for these unnamed gentlemen to advocate the interests of the Indians. Is it Mr. McKinlay's idea that he, and those gentlemen have been able to give better information to the government respecting Williams Lake affairs than has been furnished, from time to time, during two years past, by Father McGeuchin and Mr. Lang-Mearns JP, through Mr. Lenihan and through the Reserve Commission? And is he prepared to affirm that there has been any neglect on the part of the Reserve Commission to point out "The miserable manner in which the Indians have been treated, now rendering it necessary for these gentlemen to step forward, and remedy that neglect?

They could not use their influence in a better cause, still I may say that if they will read the correspondence of the commission with the Government during these years past, they will find that they themselves are somewhat late in entering the field, to advocate the interest of the Indians.

The undersigned does not find it easy to criticise Mr. McKinlay's letter because the object of it is not easily understood. One singular inaccuracy

personally & respect, but I could not send an official message through him to any tribe of Indians - supposing I sent an oral instead of a written message, which I would do.

All communications respecting Williams Lake affairs have been made by the Reserve Commission either through Mr. Lenihan, or Mr. Lang-Mearns, the local Justice of the Peace, or through Father McGuckin of Williams Lake, whom I have personally seen when engaged employed in the New Westminster District, and with whom I have conversed on Williams Lake matters.

I have advised both governments, from time to time of every piece of information that has reached me from the authoritative sources above mentioned - Mr. Lang-Mearns and Father McGuckin - and have sent copies also of my letters to these gentlemen, and further, I have kept Mr. Lenihan duly advised.

On 12th May 1879 I wrote as follows to the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works:

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Gage's letter of the 7th instant, and notice that the information in your possession relative to the discontent of the Indians in the Interior" "Interior agrees with that communicated by the Reserve Commission on the 6th and 13th May 1878" "to the Hon. The Provincial Secretary, and to yourself" "on the 23 June 1878 and 20th March and 26th April" "last" - - - - -

From the situation of affairs thus defined by consecutive official correspondence it appears that Mr. Mc Kinlay, a gentleman occupying a private station and without the semblance of any kind of authorisation, has intrusively entered,

and not only has taken upon himself to give assurances to the Indians but has written a letter to the Chief containing most gross misstatements and imputations, and having written that letter, he has had the incredible recklessness to publish it in the newspapers.

He then appears to have proceeded to Victoria, and met a number of "old wise men" who opened a correspondence with both governments, showing the miserable manner in which the Indians have been treated in this Province. Upon this I would remark that it is somewhat late in the day for these unnamed gentlemen to advocate the interests of the Indians. Is it Mr. Mc Kinlay's idea that he, and those gentlemen have been able to give better information to the government respecting Williams Lake affairs than has been furnished, from time to time, during two years past, by Father McGuckin and Mr. Lang-Mearns J.P., through Mr. Lenihan and through the Reserve Commission? And is he prepared to affirm that there has been any neglect on the part of the Reserve Commission to point out "the miserable manner" in which the Indians have been treated, now rendering it necessary for these gentlemen to step forward, and remedy that neglect?

They could not use their influence in a better cause, still I may say that if they will read the correspondence of the commission with the government during three years past, they will find that they themselves are somewhat late in entering the field, to advocate the interest of the Indians.

The undersigned does not find it easy to criticise Mr. Mc Kinlay's letter because the spirit of it is not easily understood. One singular inaccuracy

may be noted which by its nature shows the necessity of corresponding in reference to Indian matters at Williams Lake and elsewhere, through responsible officers, and not through persons who are habitually careless. Mr. McKinlay was Commissioner for the Provincial Government, and in his letter, now under review, he says that in successive official reports to his own Government he stated that the "Indians "from Yale to Spence's bridge" (80 miles along the wagon road) "possess no land at all with the exception of a few acres at Spuzzum".

It will appear almost inconceivable to the Department at Ottawa that the undersigned should have to state in reply the fact that between the places named, there are 15 to 20 of the oldest surveyed Indian reserves in the Province, through which, or by the villages on which Mr. McKinlay has often travelled, and twice in the company of the undersigned.

But if Mr. McKinlay is correct in stating that at Williams Lake "the difficulty is to find it" "(land) in such situations as would be capable" "of being irrigated without great expense and labour" at least that is the general opinion, but the undersigned has not yet visited the place.

Father McQuillin or Mr. Lang-Treasor to whom the Reserve Commission explained matters, could have informed Mr. McKinlay that this water difficulty is the real difficulty at Williams Lake and elsewhere in the arid portions of the Province, and reflection would have shown him that the Reserve Commission cannot settle these water questions unless the Provincial Government takes them up.

He says that he does not see where lands in 5 or 6 localities well known to him are to be found

without purchasing from white settlers. Now, if anyone knows, Mr. McKinlay knows that the Reserve Commission has no power to buy land, and no instructions even to recommend such a means of adjustment, and he also knows that in the opinion of the Dominion Government the duty of finding land for the Indians is upon the Province. He further knows that the whole expense of the commission is borne by the Dominion Government. Yet he professes indignation that the Reserve Commission which he knows cannot, without Provincial Government help, adjust these questions, should have been ordered elsewhere, pending discussion between the two governments as to a means of adjusting the admittedly difficult question concerning water for irrigating Indian lands.

Having thus to work elsewhere, Mr. McKinlay objects to the place where work was undertaken in the coast, when, as above said, the policy of the Government, following imperative circumstances, did not permit the Commission to continue work in the Interior.

He apparently forgets that the Commission took up the work where the former commission were reluctantly obliged to leave off; and that the work has lately ^{been} carried on in Districts in which he, as Provincial Commissioner, on the 27th April 1877, asked the chief Commissioner of lands to withhold lands from pre-emption or purchase, pending the return of the Commission, when possible, to admit the land claims of the Indians.

The undersigned regrets that it has been necessary to correct the statements of a former colleague.

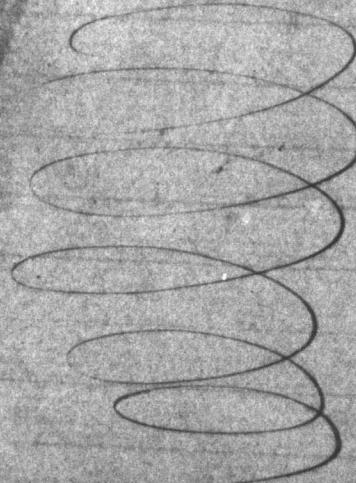
(S.S.) Gilbert M. Sproat
B.C.

any surprise and mortification may be easily conjectured when I learned that after the promises made to himself and the other commissioners, through me, he only came out as Lytton, and from thence pursued his steps and proceeded to the northwest coast, for what object no one can surmise. As soon as I heard of this wonderful move I proceeded to Victoria where I met a number of old wise men, friends to the Indian and to justice, and who were equally as indignant as myself at Mr. Sproat's proceedings. We addressed letters to the Provincial Government and the Government at Ottawa expressing our opinion and deprecating the miserable manner in which your tribe as well as others have been treated. In my report to the Provincial Government I endeavored to show as clearly as possible the fact that few of the tribes from Cache Creek had anything like money and to support them, and I mentioned your tribe in particular, who, to my certain knowledge, have not one inch they can call their own. Following is extracted from my report of 8th March 1878, addressed to Hon. A. C. Elliott: "As I remarked in my former report the Indians from Yale to Spence's Bridge possess no land at all with the exception of a few acres at Spuzzum. Those on the Bonaparte, Canoe Creek, Dog Creek, Alkali Lake and Soda Creek have only very small reserves at present of an extremely sterile soil, and those of Williams Lake none whatever, and for my own part I really do not see where lands in these neighborhoods are to be found to give them without purchasing from white settlers. I have called your attention again to this subject, as I think it a grave one. No doubt there is plenty of land to be found, but the difficulty is to find it in such situations as would be capable of being irrigated without great expense of labor."

I hope either Mr. Lenihan or Col. Bell will consider your wants as expressed in your letter and take means to furnish you with such food as will prevent you from starvation. Your father's confidence in my word in days past, and I think you still do the same. Believe me once more when I say that I feel sure ample justice will be done to you all next spring. Should my word, however, on this occasion fail, I will never ask you again to have confidence in it; at the same time I trust you would not think that I would wilfully mislead you. With deep sympathy, I remain,

Your friend,
ARCH. MCKINLAY.

See p. 152



Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia
temporarily at Victoria.
7th Feb 1880

Dear Sir /

Bonni's Kuper Island farm is in hands of Alsop and Mason Victoria, who are authorized to sell for \$1,000. The horse is in Halifax N.S. the return England. I said or meant to say to you that £800. not \$300 was the price put on it by Mr. Bonni in his offer to the government.

Reference to my private journal shows that in talking with Mr. Bonni 17 Jan'y 1877 he said that about 50 acres altogether could be cultivated at Village Bay within his 100 acres including what he had cleared - which I think was about 22 acres divided into 3 fields (one 12 the 6 and 4 acres). He said he proposed ploughing 22 acres in spring and hoped to get \$600 to \$800 worth of Timothy next year - There were a barn, dwelling - good spring of water - orchard \$20 of fruit trees bearing for 3 years - a good many apples last year. Mr. Bonni said that Alder bottoms run through the whole of the Island. Except bonni's the Island is Indian land. I enclose rough sketch of the actual survey of the Island showing bonni's claim.

With my compliments to your son
I am dear sir

Archd R J Abbott
Comox

Feb 1

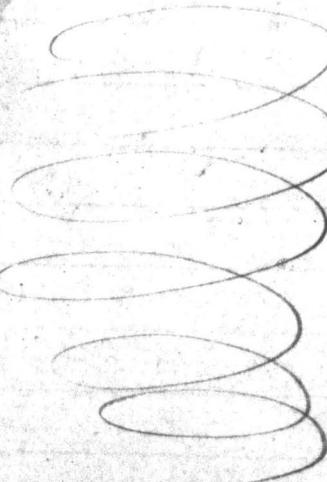
Yours in haste
J. P. Sproat
Comox

159

My surprise and mortification may be easily conjectured when I learned that after the promises made to himself and the other commissioners, through me, he only came so far as Lytton, and from thence retraced his steps and proceeded to the northwest coast, for what object no one can surmise. As soon as I heard of this wonderful move I proceeded to Victoria where I met a number of old wise men, friends to the Indian and to justice, and who were equally as indignant as myself at Mr. Sproat's proceedings. We addressed letters to the Provincial Government and the Government at Ottawa expressing our opinion and deprecating the miserable manner in which your tribe as well as others have been treated. In my report to the Provincial Government I endeavored to show as clearly as possible the fact that few of the tribes from Cache Creek had anything like enough land to support them, and I mentioned your tribe in particular, who, to my certain knowledge, have not one inch they can call their own. Following is extracted from my report of 8th March, 1878, addressed to Hon. A. C. Elliott: "As I remarked in my former report the Indians from Yale to Spence's Bridge possess no land at all with the exception of a few acres at Spuzzum. Those on the Bonaparte, Canoe Creek, Dog Creek, Alkali Lake and Soda Creek have only very small reserves at present of an extremely sterile soil, and those of Williams Lake none whatever, and for my own part I really do not see where lands in these neighborhoods are to be found to give them without purchasing from white settlers. I have called your attention again to this subject, as I think it a grave one. No doubt there is plenty of land to be found, but the difficulty is to find it in such situations as would be capable of being irrigated without great expense and labor."

I hope either Mr. Lenihan or Col. Jewell will consider your wants as expressed in your letter and take means to furnish you with such food as will prevent you from starvation. Your father has confidence in my word in days gone by, and I think you still do the same. Believe me once more when I say that I feel sure ample justice will be done to you all next spring. Should my word, however, on this occasion fail, I will never ask you again to have confidence in it; at the same time I know you would not think that I would wilfully mislead you. With deep sympathy, I remain,

Your friend,
ARCH. MCKINLAY.



Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia,
temporarily at Victoria
7th July 1881

Dear Sir /

Tom's Kuper Island farm is in hands of Alsop and Mason Victoria, who are authorized to sell for \$1000. The hen is in Halifax N.S. the other in England. I said or meant to say to you that £300 not \$300 was the price put on it by Mr. Tom in his offer to the government.

Reference to my private journal shows that in talking with Norbourn 17 Jan'y 1877 he said that about 50 acres altogether could be cultivated at Village Bay within his 100 acres including what he had cleared - which I think was about 22 acres divided into 3 fields (one 12 one 6 the rest 4 acres). He said he proposed ploughing 22 acres in spring and hoped to get \$600 to \$800 worth of Timothy next year. There were a barn, dwelling - good spring of water - orchard 40 fruit trees bearing for 3 years - a good many apples last year. Norbourn said that Alder bottoms run through the whole of the Island. Except horns the Island is Indian land. Enclose rough sketch of the actual survey of the Island showing Tom's farm.

With my compliments to your son
I am dear sir

Read H. Roberts
Cornwall J. 1881

Yours in haste
H. M. Sproat
Vancouver

Indian Reserve Commission
B.C. 7th Feb 1880.

Memoandum on the question whether Reserve Commission work should be begun at Williams Lake in the approaching 1880 season, as ordered in Mr Vankough's letter of 4 Dec 1879.

The practice of the Com^m hitherto has been to take the Indians in their turn - one group after another - in the district embraced within the programme of the year, no deviations being made to please the whim or ambition of chiefs, or to take first, tribes which had, or fancied they had, exceptional grievances.

This not only saves money which would be spent in going to and fro, but is a steady method, intelligible to the Indians, and being understood by them, they wait patiently till their time comes. They quite understand the map of the country, and appreciate the controlling effect of the months and seasons upon the movements of the Com^m.

The adjustment of the Indian lands (subject to certain open questions) has steadily proceeded from the frontier northward to about the 51 parallel of N.L., and the Indians immediately north of the visited line, who have waited patiently, would have reason to be dissatisfied, if the procedure of the Com^m were so far changed as to cause me to visit first a small tribe of 20 or 30 men, 130 miles to the north, and who

have no special influence, and it may be said, no special grievance compared with aggrieved Indians north and south of them.

Such a change in the work of the Com^m would be unintelligible to the Indians, or intelligible only as evidence that the Indians can get what they like by clamour and impatience, which idea every act of the Com^m hitherto has tended to discourage.

Up the Fraser from Lytton and off from it to the eastward, there are, between Lytton and Williams Lake, numerous Indians, as good as any in the country, and well led by some fine old chieftains, such as Chilcooty and others.

These chief with their chief men have visited my camp several times, and the method of work and movements of the Com^m have been carefully explained to them and been approved by them.

In particular, last year, I explained to Chilcooty that there were questions between the Com^m as to water for the Indians which required time for discussion, and that, consequently, the Com^m was going elsewhere for a half a year where water questions did not arise.

This chief who, in his country, is as influential as Chilkohto on the southern interior, said there was nothing unreasonable in this, and the other chief who were with him took the same view.

These Indians, namely at Clinton, Lillooet, Fountain, Big Bar,

Canoe Creek, Dog Creek, alkali lake, are exceedingly working patiently and trusting that there will be no change in the regular steady work of the Com'ty pursued now for three years, but that they will be dealt with when their time comes, and not passed over for others, an act which would wound their confidence in the Com'ty and their self pride.

For these, in my judgment, in particular seasons, the programme of the Com'ty for the coming season provided the best arrangement water question, should be to begin between Lytton and Lillooet and work up past Lillooet and the Fountain to Clinton, thence down to Big Bar Creek and up the Fraser Valley, past Canoe Creek, Dog Creek, Alkali Lake, merging then to Lake Le Nach, Williams Lake, and on to Soda Creek, Alexanoria and Inverelle.

The small tribe at Williams' Lake would thus be enframed in the seasons work and taken in their turn as usual.

This programme is admirable for secondary seasons connected with the climate and the Commissionat.

Work can probably be undertaken a month earlier about Lillooet than at William's Lake or in the districts where these more northern Indians will probably want land.

It would cost much more to take six or seven months

supplies to the neighbourhood of Williams Lake than to the neighbourhood of Lytton.

It may be said - why not go straight to Inverelle, and work south? The question of climate in spring comes in here, and another important question also, the effect on the Chilcotins. I should not wish to go within speaking distance of the Chilcotins in the early part of the year and then work away from them.

It would be much better to approach them from the south, and arrive at a time of the year when it would be evident to them that the Com'ty could not do much in their country this season. I could then establish friendly relations with them and make a promise for the succeeding spring. If favored in the summers work up the Fraser, it might perhaps be possible to begin the Chilcotin work towards end of the season, but this is hardly to be expected.

It is believed that the Chilcotin work will be the most arduous yet undertaken by the Com'ty.

If nothing can be done in Chilcotin this year, the Com'me on retracing its steps, might turn off at Lillooet and adjust land matters among the Indians along the old road down to Douglas coming out at Harrison River mouth. These Indians number about 1000.

I could not define the Reserve at the mouth of Harrison river while working in New West District last year as the Mogahtoes

drove the Indians away, and most of the land was under water.

The above may be too extensive a programme, considering the difficulties likely to be encountered throughout, but I may remark that the fall of the year when the water is low, is the time when Con or work can best be done on the Elliot-Douglas road.

These then being the reasons for the proposed programme, it may be asked what reason exists for beginning work at William Lake instead of following the established order of work among the Indians?

Upon this I have no information, and can only surmise that the reversal of established procedure is the result of the letter of the William Lake chief published in the newspapers, and a communication which Mr. McRae, in a letter to the "Colonist" newspaper Dec 6 Dec 1877, says that he and others have, in my absence in the field, been forwarding to the Dominion Govt.

The position of the William Lake chief and tribe is a bad one as they have no reserves, but for many years past they have been permitted to cultivate the lands of the mission, but that is now said to be nearly exhausted. This year has been a dull one for all in the province, and these Indians were not employed by the white people as usual, hence on the approach of winter day became impatient, fearing that they might be

without the resources of life. A respectful statement of facts to the Govt., with a request that some help might be given temporarily, would seem to have been the proper course under these circumstances, and this request should have been made through Father McGuckin, or the local magistrate to Mr. Lenihan, and would then have come in a regular manner before the authorities.

In my opinion the action taken in putting the chief William's complaints into a sensational letter and publishing it, and the action of Mr. McRae in writing an incorrect letter to the Chief William and in also publishing such letter, was irregular and ill-advised, calculated to confuse the mind of the Indians, and to embarrass the very good work now in hand.

It should be borne in mind that other Indians, more numerous than the William Lake people, and whom it is, apparently, proposed to pass over in favour of the last named, are as a result of conversations with me, patiently waiting the action of the Govt., though some of them have, as Mr. Dainganson advises me, not more than half an acre to each adult, and are therefore presumably as ill off as the William Lake people, who at least have had the Mission lands to cultivate, such as they are.

I am not arguing against a visit to the William Lake Indians. The people have my deep sympathy, and another

the orderly programme for the year will have attention in their turn.

What I respectfully submit is that it has been shown in the foregoing that there are very strong reasons why the well understood procedure of the Reserve Com^{ee} should not be changed in the coming season, merely because a small distant tribe has, naturally, no doubt under seal suffering, but also, I must think, under bad advice, taken a course which other equally aggrieved tribes in the district, who have been in direct communication with the Reserve Com^{ee}, have not taken.

With respect to the communication which Mr. McKinley says that he and others have made on the Williams Lake case to Col^t. L^r, I cannot offer any comments thereon, not knowing their contents, but probably I may venture to say that they could not, as outsiders, have any information as to the proceedings of the Reserve Com^{ee} as to its relations to and communication with the Indians, whether visited or unvisited, or as to the particular stage which the work had reached in the interior, and how that work might be affected by visiting a small tribe out of its turn.

They might also, in fairness, have inquired (1) whether the Com^{ee} could do useful work in that district without help from the Pow. Env.; as regards the latter question - and (2) whether the Com^{ee} had any authority from the Pow. Env. to work

in that District

S^r. Gilbert Malcolm Sprout,
Commissioner.

forwards
for see 179
Sett^o 1878 //

Indian Res. Com^{ee}
British Columbia

9 Feby 1880

Memorandum on the question in Mr. Van Koughnet's letter to Mr. Sprout of the 25th Nov 1879 "whether the former Indian Res. Com^{ee} of which you were one did not allot reserves to all of the Indians on both sides of the Strait of Georgia from Victoria to Comox, and, if so, what was the necessity for your doing this work, or part of it, at least, over again, as you would appear to have done?"

(1) It is the fact that the former Reserve Com^{ee} did allot Reserves to all of the Indians on both sides of the Strait of Georgia from Victoria to Comox. See Appendix A & B, but it is not the fact that the present Reserve Com^{ee} has done the work, or any part of it, except as hereinafter mentioned, over again.

(2) The accompanying map will probably be the best means of showing where the work of the former Reserve Commission ended on the Coast, and where the work of the present Reserve Com^{ee} began during its late visit to the Coast.

3, The appendices C and D and F show the reasons why the present Reserve Com^{ee} began at the Shiammon district, namely, (in short)

Because the former Reserve Com^{ee}, much to the disappointment of the Indians, were unable to visit Shiammon but crossed to Comox and went southward along the east side of Vancouver Id.

All the Com^{ee}, representatives, joined in requesting the Prov. Govt to withdraw lands in the Shiammon and other districts (where the present Commissioner has lately been working) pending the return of the Com^{ee}, as soon as possible to adjust land matters in those districts.

The Provincial Govt did not attend to this request but sold lands close up to the village - thus creating a difficult question between the Govt, and a necessity for the Com^{ee} visiting the district, and reporting on the case, or finding a means of compromise.

14,

Because these Indians sent messages to the Govt by their own people and by the Catholic Bishop, saying that they would not be forgotten.

15)

Because in the latter end of 1878, the patience of these Indians was exhausted, and Dr Powell and Mr Walker (see Appendix F) on learning that the Indians were protecting themselves by seizing the saw-logs of loggers in the

district, determined to communicate the fact to the Govt to be dealt with at the earliest opportunity, on Mr. Spratt's return from the Mainland.

16, The Com^{ee} as long before that time, was well aware of the necessity, and, ^{after finishing his West District} accordingly went there, when the inability of the Provincial Govt to arrange irrigating questions made it impossible to continue work in the interior.

17,

It illustrates some of the conditions of the work of the Com^{ee} that the Com^{ee}, in thus proceeding to do what was necessary and what he had been asked to do, was blamed and informed, without any reason assigned, that to visit Shiammon would do more harm than good, and that he ought to go to the western interior, though the water difficulty there was well known.

It is impossible for the Reserve Com^{ee} to be in two places at once, or to be guided by inconsistent recommendations. Considerations of expense no less than the effect on the Indian mind, and many things not obvious to outsiders require a steady course of action.

The foregoing with the Map, shows where the present Commissioner began work on the Com^{ee}, and why it began at Shiammon.

It is not obvious in what the idea could have originated that in so doing the present Com^{ee} was doing work

over again, seeing that the former Commission never was at that spot, nor at any place north thereof, where the present Com^m has worked lately.

Perhaps it may have arisen from a visit which Mr Sprout paid to Oyster Harbour - a place dealt with by the former Com^m, which inadvertently, owing to some fault in their copies of the Land Office Records, included the whole precipitation of Mr G R Fox within the Indian Reserve, and the fact was only discovered when Mr Green went to survey the Reserve. It then became necessary for the present Com^m to visit Oyster Harbour to adjust this unfortunate matter between Mr Fox and the Indians. Or the idea of so doing work may have arisen from my having called at Valdez Id., where the Com^m Surveyor brought the Survey, causing an incommensurable correspondence with Capt Wake respecting which Dr Powell urged me to ascertain the facts. But it does not seem necessary to enlighten this memorandum by offering remarks on hypotheses -

The facts are stated above, which it is hoped embrace the information desired.

R. G. Dr. Sprout

Com^m.

Appendix A

Extract letter Indian Reserve Commissioners to the Provincial secretary 17th Oct 1876

"From Burrard's Inlet we would propose to go to Abas" "ound which is looked upon as a home by many of "the Burrard's Inlet Indians; thence, if the weather "permitted, to Jervis Inlet, where we understand "there are some timber cutting questions between white "men and Indians.....

"..... The wet weather will probably not set in "so soon on the East Coast of Vancouver Island "as in the Inlets on the mainland coast, and we would "next propose to cross direct to the East coast of the "Island, and continue work at such places as might "be found convenient"

Appendix B

See joint commissioners letters from Jervis Inlet and from Comox, Dec 1876. See also Commission Report with plans and descriptions sent 21st March 1877.

Appendix C

Extract from Commission Report sent 21 March 1877

"The industry of the men is manifested in a very "useful and profitable way, and by the Indians" "on Burrard's Inlet widely encouraged. Last year" "we were informed, they supplied 1500,000 cubic "feet of saw logs, for which they received, delivered" "in the water adjacent to the places where cut, at" "the rate of \$3 p.m. being the price paid also to" "white men prosecuting the same business."

"To encourage this industry and in accordance" "with a wish expressed by the Chiefs the Indians" "singers assured them that they would recommend" "the Provincial Government to grant them a special"

"privilege of timber cutting on the West side of Queen's
Reach from the Simacchin reserve at the head
down to Point Patrick

"With a view to this, indeed, the Commissioners had
before leaving Victoria, asked for the reservation
temporarily, of this tract of land, a request which
was at once *acceded to by the Chief Compt' of
Lands"

* Note This proved to be an error.

Note: The above refers to the Jervis Inlet Indians,
north of whom the former Commission did not go.
The Shannons and Klahoose &c Indians are
immediately to the south, and the extract is
to show the nature of the timber questions which
so much interested all these Indians, and to
elucidate, in part, what follows.

The former Reserve Commission turned before
reaching the Shannons Klahoose &c; but at
Comox they saw some of these Indians who were
there trading and they heard of the people's wants
generally from Mr Nodella, the local SP and others.

Accordingly, on getting back to Victoria and learning
that their next trip was to be to the interior, and
that the further prosecution of coast work must be
delayed, all the Commissioners joined in the following
letter.

Appendix. D.

(Copy)

if

Victoria 27th April 1877

"It would, in our opinion, be well if
the Provincial Government reserved Hornwood
Island, and Coates Islands in the Gulf of Georgia
until the land claims of the Klahoose and
other neighbouring Indians are settled, also all

the Islands in the Fraser river lying opposite the
Matsqui Village and near the S.W. of Township 17
New Westminster District

"Looking to the number of Indians in Barclay
Sound and that neighbourhood, and also at Salmon
River which flows into Johnston's Straits, we recommend
similar action in reference to land at the head
of the Alberni Canal, from that place to the mountains
and also the land in the Salmon River Valley.
The Alberni land is within the railway belt.
Judging from letters which we have received
us from Mr Duncan SP and others, it might, further,
be advisable, pending the settlement of Indian
land questions, not to give any right to lands
on the Nass and Skeena, except subject to the
occupation rights of the Indians."

Sig) A.C. Anderson

" " A. McKeithay

Chief Compt' of Lands Works " G.W. Sproat
Victoria

Note

The Commissioners proceeded in 1877 to the interior,
and left over the above Coast work and also the
New Westminster District for future adjustment,
much to the disappointment of the Indians concerned.

In Spring of 1878 the question of the seasons programme,
came up and for pressing reasons, the commission
determined to go again to the interior, but messages
reached Mr Sproat from the Shannons and a
deputation of 6 chiefs came from the New Westminster
District, strongly protesting against the commission
again going past them.

When Mr Sproat did start, the Indians, as advised
in his letter to Ottawa 20th May 1878 came long
distances to see him at New Westminster and

were waiting at every landing place on Fraser River as he passed up in the steamer.

Though at work in the Victoria, Mr Sproat repeatedly wrote to the Govt Agents and to the Provincial Government, on the subject of the lands on these coast and New Westminster District Indians, but it is probably unnecessary to copy these letters. I quote the Chief Commissioner of Lands dated, In Camp, Books Ferry, 17 July 1878 Mr Sproat said.

"I also crave reference by way of reminder, "to the letter of the Indian Reserve Commissioner 27 "April 1877 asking you to reserve temporarily certain "lands in places unvisited by the commissioners. "The Klahoose Indians are very anxious about "Harwood, Savary and Bentles Islands, and came to "New Westminster to meet me on the way up to "express their anxiety."

Appendix E.

On returning from the 1878 campaign into interior, Mr Sproat received the following letter from Dr Powell which, with its enclosure speaks for itself

Copy

Indian office Victoria

14 Sept 1878

Sir, "I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter from Mr Rodello, the Government Agent at Comox, relative to anticipated trouble between the Blahahmin (Sliammon) Indians and white men who are engaged in cutting timber in the vicinity of the Indian villages.

"I have conferred with the Hon. the Attorney General on the subject, who considered it best to leave the matter in abeyance until your return to this place" &c
J.W. Powell
1591 J.Supt.

Copy) Enclosure in above letter

Comox Oct 3rd 1878

Dr Powell

Sir,

I am now to inform you that on the 20th day of last I went across the Gulf of Georgia over to visit the Sliammon tribe of Indians which the priest of New Westminster castrated which he told me to be sure to inform you with the trouble between the Indians and some white men there cutting logs for the sawmills. The Indians said distinctly "How Mr Rodello as you are the Govt Agent here, and you have always been our best friend, we now depend on you that you will inform Dr Powell, our agent of this matter and hoping that he will settle this. If not we will protect ourselves. Also this day 3 leaves have arrived here from Klahoose also stating another complaint as above which the Indians have seized the logs that the white men have cut, and they will not allow them to take the logs away, and they will wait for your answer to me by next steamer to prevent further trouble for these white men to cut timber close to their villages."

Yours Obedtly

J. Rodello

The priest he also told me to write to Mr Sproat Indian Commissioner, but I think you will do, or see Mr Sproat yourself."

On inquiry Mr Sproat found that the Provincial Government had sold a much coveted piece of timber land close to the principal village of the

Indians, but the season was too far advanced for him to effectively examine the question, and when Spring opened the Commission, as already stated, was under an imperative obligation to adjust matters in the populous District of New Westminster. Thereafter, on the earliest opportunity, he went on the coast and began at Shiammon (See map) and he must beg leave, in conclusion to say that it is inexplicable to his mind that any gentleman connected with these transactions should have written, as some appear to have done to the Downⁿ Govt, to say that they do not know why the commission undertook work on the coast, or why the commission began at Shiammon

(25) J.M.S.

In enclosure
See Job. 168 to 177

Indian Reserve Commission
British Columbia - Victoria

9th July 1880

Sir /

In further reference to your letter No 16.665 of the 25th Jy. as to whether the Reserve Commission had been doing work already done, I beg to enclose an explanatory memorandum (see Map) to which I shall be glad to add any further information that may be required. The stretches and particulars of reserves which in the above letter you also express a wish to have will be made and forwarded as soon as I can get to work on that portion of the records of the seasons labours.

I am &c.

L. Van Koughnet Esq.
Deputy Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

Baptist Columbia.
Indian Reserve Comm.

Victoria 9th July 1880.

Sir,

I have received your letter No 14.830 of the 1st Oct last mentioning that Mr. G. B. Lenihan takes exception to statements in certain notes respecting the Lower Fraser Indians which accompanied the Census, and particularly to statements respecting Indian contribution for a school house at New Westminster.

In reply I beg respectfully to say that I have made no such statements, and have no knowledge of the matter referred to.

On investigation I find that the statements which Mr. Lenihan criticises are contained in the notes which Mr. George B. Blakinson, the Census Enumerator, has been in the habit of appending to his Census Returns, for the information of the Superintendents, and which are signed by himself and have not come under my review.

That gentleman who is usually accurate, and is well informed generally upon Indian matters, expresses an opinion that by a clerical error he has mentioned the school instead of the Church.

I have had an interview with Mr. Lenihan and explained the above to him.

Thought

not required to remark on statements not made by me, I may add that the capabilities of the Indians of the Lower Fraser to do a good deal for themselves are shown by the large contributions which it is said, they have made to the Church mentioned in your letter, and though this has been a dull year throughout the Province, these Indians, as a rule, get much employment in the salmon fisheries, and on the starting of railway works they will be as doubtless employed by the farmers and slave in the general improvement of the labour market.

My impression is that at present they have not much cash in their possession, owing to late bad times and their want of enterious industry and thrift. I judge of this by having heard of some of them being compelled to draw upon old hoards. The school building question however is not a question of cash but of the contribution of their labour. The Indians should certainly cut, draw and prepare the timber, and some of them might build the school house itself - the Ent finding slate windows, hinges and articles requiring cash outlay.

No one would propose to have schools on each Reserve. The Reserves are scattered - Each group of Indians, to speak, might have a school house.

At Yale the Church of England, I believe, has an Indian

school. Coming down the river, the Roman Catholics at Hope, have a Church to which I think the Bishop told me the Indians contributed largely by labour, but I do not know whether the Church would permit a sacred edifice to be also used as a School.

Further down the river, the vigorous Chefs Allegis at Chemain would certainly build a school if a teacher were found, and the Catholic Church approved.

At Chilliwack the Indians are not very industrious, and ecclesiastically, are split up, but for which, they could certainly largely contribute by their labour towards a school.

The Indians between that place and New Westminster - say principally at Langley, Matsqui &c. are backward, and not much under Church influence; and probably just at present, would not act in school matters without some pressure.

What the Bella Coola Indians, above Yale, of themselves proposed to do in school matters shows the possibilities in that direction.

The Indians like their children so well what proposals for the children's good form one of the best channels of influencing the people generally.

These are matters outside my Card business, but I sincerely hope that the numerous bright Indian children, now of school age in this province, whose future characters will be determined by the next few

years, may have favorable opportunities
of education soon afforded them.

S. Van Koughout Esq
Dsp. Comr. Gen. of Indian Affairs - Ottawa
Your Obd^r Servt
Sa G M Spurl. Com^r

I am Sir

Your Obd^r Servt

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria Feb^r 18th 1880

Sir

Will you have the goodness to permit Mr
Farewell, who is employed by the commission,
to make some land office investigations on
matters connected with Indian Questions

Yours faithfully
G. M. Spurl.

Chief
The
The
Chief
of
Sands
Victoria

comr

In Response Victoria
12 Feb 1880

Sir

Enclosed please find estimate of expenditure
for the Comr for yr ending 30 June 1881

I enclose

1. Sum Spent

J. M. Powell, M.P. Victoria

Indian Res. Commission

Victoria 16 Feb 1880

My dear Chilko etc,

In reply to your letter
of the 28 Dec I send you enclosed copies
of the two letters from me 20 June 1879 and
14 August 1879 which you lost in the McLean
trunk, and I return the paper of Mr Weston
which you sent me.

I have been much
pleased to hear of the good conduct of
yourself, your son and people in the
capture of these bad youths, who by
breaking the law, will bring ruin on
themselves and shame on their friends.

You have always been a good
friend to the white people, and I quite expect
that you would act as you have done.

With best wishes

I am yours truly
G. M. Spurl. Com^r

Chilko etc
Indian Chief
Douglas Lake

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 18th Feby
1880

Sir

As requested in your letter No. 16.692
18th Feby last, I beg to enclose a copy upon
the extract which you sent me from
Dr. Powell's report on his recent visitation

to the Coast Tribes.

I will give a copy of Dr. Powell's

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servt
by G. M. Spratt
Commissioner

J. Van Koughnet Esq.
Deputy Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 18th Feb 1880

The undersigned has the honour to submit the following report on an extract from Mr. Indian Superintendent Powell's report on the Coast tribes, enclosed in Mr. Van Koughnet's letter No. 692 18th Nov. 1879.

By G. M. Spratt
Commissioner

Lxx

The undersigned may state that he was a magistrate and a large employer of both Indian and white labour on the west coast of Vancouver Island from 1860 to 1865. The Indians seemed to be a distinct group and he gave them the name of the "Aht" which has been retained. Having described fully the manners, character and condition of these Indians in a full-fldd volume which is in the possession of the Department, it is unnecessary to take up time by describing these

again in this Report.

After an interval of about a dozen years, the undersigned has had an experience of two seasons work in other parts of the Coast as Reserve Commissioner.

The questions of present interest suggested by Dr. Powell's report fall naturally under two heads—

(1)

What is it desirable to do as regards the allotment of lands for the Ahts, and (I presume) other Coast Tribes not yet visited by the Commission?

(2)

What can the Government reasonably do to improve these Coast Indians?

With respect to question 1. the undersigned thinks it well to state, in the first place, the practice of the Reserve Commission on the rougher portions of the Coast. This has been carefully considered in reference to the circumstances of the people and the probable requirements of the government, and in so far as the undersigned has had to do with the matter, the practice followed agrees with recommendations made to him in conversation by the late Sir James Douglas.

Practice of the Reserve Commission on the rougher portions of the Coast.

1.

Visit, examine and define the principal village sites, burial places and cultivated lands.

2.

Examine the neighbourhood in order to find additional area, or areas, of cultivable land which may be required now, or in the future.

3.

and timber areas for the use of those Indians who may be likely to follow the industry of "logging" - e.g. Nlannous, Klahoses, Se Shell, Luctatus &c.

As regards fishing and hunting stations, which could only be visited at a disproportionate cost, get the Indians to mark them carefully on a map and have the same recorded at the Land Office - such places though essential to the Indians, not being at present worth a visitation by the Land Commissioner and not requiring survey.

These rules have been followed, the only difference between the former and the present Commission in the matter having been that the undersigned has given a more ^{extensive} scope to rule 4.

The undersigned thinks that in the interests of the Dominion Government the remaining work on the coast should not be delayed until some indefinite time in the future, but should be completed at the earliest possible time.

The neglect, in time past, to adjust Reserves in advance of white settlement lies at the root of the whole Indian Question. These Indians, who, in the words of Sir James Douglas (Despatch to the Secretary of State 25th March 1861) have "distinct ideas of property in land and mutually" "recognise their several exclusive possessory rights" "in certain Districts" have never surrendered those rights nor is it proposed to compensate them for such surrender.

At this date, 20 years after the establishment of the Colony, no reserves have been assigned to them, nor indeed is there any legislation in

face in British Columbia which provides reservations of lands for the Indians.

Some obligation therefore rests upon the Dominion Government not to delay indefinitely the allotment of reserves in unvisited districts up the Coast, particularly as it is not a question of any large extra expenditure, and does not, so far as the experience of the undersigned goes involve the difficulties which Dr Powell apprehends.

The undersigned thinks that he could have completed the whole Coast work this year had it not been necessary for the Commissioner to go to the interior, and there could have been a reduction of \$4⁰⁰ a day in the expenditure.

The remark made by Dr Powell "if a commission were to go among them and change this system" "and tell the Indians what they were to have" "and what they were not it is apparent that trouble would certainly arise, unless we had our own regulations ready to be enforced and to supersede theirs" suggest what does not agree with the experience on the Coast of the undersigned.

The people, while pointing out to the Commissioner as a matter of historical information, the limits of the old "Country" claimed by them, soon get hold of the idea that the land is the Queen's and not theirs, and that they may hunt on unoccupied lands anywhere, and they understand the security given by an allotment by the Queen of their favorite village sites and resnts.

The undersigned does not understand what regulations are referred to in the above extract nor how in connection with an assignment of Land Reserves any question of supercession

can arise. The defining of the lands must prevent trouble.

Sir James Douglas as long ago as 1851. in regard to the Tucackars and odd Quakeottah people - though Coast Tribes inhabiting an unpromising coast - caused to be done what is objected to above - he told these Indians what they were to have and what they were not to have, and the undersigned has not heard of any difficulties consequent upon that transaction. The arrangement was effected by a money payment, and the difference between that policy of Sir James Douglas and the action of the Reserve Commission is that the latter explains to the Indians that the equivalent must now be sought by them in the advantages of a settled government preventing tribal wars, and a special administration of their affairs by officers appointed to advise and help them no cash will be paid.

The following agreement show what Sir James Douglas did.

(Here follows extract from "Papers relating to Indian Land Question" by the whole of page 11. with the exception of the last four(4) lines.)

The Shannons and Pachoses, lately among the dirtiest and meanest of the Coast Tribes, Not only quite understand the policy of the Government in allotting reserves, but wish the lands to be subdivided. Notwithstanding an exception that may be cited in the case of Metlakatlah, which the Commission has not visited, the undersigned knows by recent conversations with missionaries of different churches, that their work cannot be well,

or systematically pursued until the Reserves are allotted. One of these gentlemen visited locations with the Commissioner and informed him that his work had been hanging back until the land Reserves were allotted. This would seem to be reasonable, for a Missionary Society could hardly be expected to put up buildings until they definitely knew that the Indians would have lands near them. The fact that this has been, nevertheless, done on some parts of the Coast simply shows that, in pursuit of a great object, some of these societies have been content to run risks. Certain places on the Coast, at present unvisited, are rightly said by Dr. Powell to require visitation to allot lands - Nass, Fort Simpson, Metlakatlah, Alberni. White men have applied to purchase lands at Nass, Fort Simpson, Queen Charlotte Island &c and the good land at Alberni has been sold.

In view of this fact and the presence of a missionary who is hoping to do good work on Queen Charlotte Islands, that section should also be attended to, and there is said not to be much land to be had now.

The undersigned thinks Queen Charlotte Island may have been named, for the local names there may any day be worked, and experience has shown how difficult it is to overturn at the Land Office any record obtained by a white settler where only Indians are concerned on the other side. At Deans Canal, one of the places proposed to be left over the undersigned believes that white men some time since made application to purchase lands after surveying them at considerable cost. Assuming that these places have to be visited

, their position on the Map becomes important as regards the question being now considered.

It appears to the undersigned, that, in visiting those places, the Reserve Commission would be brought so near the points of the Coast proposed to be left unvisited - either at the necessary stopping places, or in passing them in the course of navigation, that it would be a pity to leave a great work incomplete, as regards points easily visited, and not containing a numerous Indian population.

The accompanying Map may be useful in bringing this out clearly. In the absence of a census, the undersigned will not hazard an estimate of the number of Indians proposed to be left unvisited, but they are not numerous - probably not over 2500.

The consideration should not be ever losted that the Indians do not like to be passed over, and are disposed to resent any partial treatment - more especially on the part of the Government. It is -- possible that, for instance, the Queen Charlotte Indians might not be pleased were neighbouring Indians in that quarter attended to, and they not, and unless the Acts are changed since the undersigned was acquainted with them, they would not like less a third of them, as is proposed, should be attended to, and the rest left without attention.

Whether the work should be done by the Commission or by the Indian Superintendent is a matter of detail. If the Indian Superintendent undertakes it, he, in fact will become the Reserve Commissioner, and the same expense will be incurred.

On the other hand while undertaking the work - of the Commission, that officer must neglect his own duties, which, viewing the condition of the Indians on the Interior and upon the Coast, will

require immediate and undivided attention for many years to come.

As regards the second head mentioned at page 3, namely, What can the Government reasonably do to improve the Coast Indians? the opinions, in general, of the undersigned have been stated in various letters, from time to time. Numerous Agents are not required. There should be a Coast Agent always on the more in a vessel, and the Superintendent also should should frequently be on the Coast. The influence of the Government, judiciously exercised in this way, would be very great. There need be no attempt to enforce among the people any arrangement for which they are not yet suited, nor to disturb their habits and pursuits. The undersigned is not aware that any proposals of that nature have been made. An Agent could help them in many ways - in suggesting new industries, or in improving industrial means in vogue at present. He could discourage gambling, whiskey drinking, and other vices which are ruining the people. Their humanity might be stimulated so that for instance, they would not as the undersigned has seen them, do turn a sick mopper out into the snow to die.

Every Missionary with whom the undersigned has conversed on the subject expresses regret that so little has been done, and a hope that, in its proper sphere, the Government will do its part to help their efforts. That the Coast Indians are not wild fellows who can be managed only by gunboats is shown by the fact, that even without much effective attention from the Government, improvement is visible in

many quarters.
Few portions of the coast are more wild than Fervis Inlet, where the So-shells live, or some part of the Shumash Klachooe Country to its north. Certainly none of the Indians were dirtier or meaner. They are now moral, industrious and well behaved and it is interesting to hear of their various ways of making a living, by fishing, hunting or by logging. This change is largely owing to the Catholic Church, but there is no resident Missionary. This shows that these coast Indians are capable of, and suggests that with the Government Agent and the Missionary working together greater progress would have been made. These examples are good, and it is easy to see signs of improvement creeping along the coast. Even some of the Indians said they wished to do like the Shumash. A few of the latter have a head or two of stock, and one of them asked the Commissioner what he thought of a piece of land for sheep. With these things going on, and Missionaries at work, or setting to work in different places, it would seem to be undesignated to be very important that the Government should, in its proper sphere, do what it can to aid progress.

Say Gilbert Malcolm Sproat
Commissioner.

P.S. The letter of Mr Anderson which Dr Powell mentions, did not accompany the extract, and the undersigned has not had an opportunity of offering comments on its contents. The tenor of its contents however, would seem to be opposed to Mr Anderson's deliberate official action, when a Commissioner, fully assisted in all other respects in Fervis Inlet - perhaps the wildest part of the coast - and joined in asking the Provincial government to make temporary reserves

in other portions of the coast, pending pending the return of the Commissioner. These new news were not heard of until lately.

(Say) G.W.S.

Victoria Reserve Commission

23^d Feby 1880

Revd R. J. Roberts
Lorne.

My dear Sir

In reply to yours of the 18th
I find, on inquiry, that the land of the late
Mr Conn on Kuper Island is not sold and
consequently no one can have any right
of occupancy.

By calculation Kuper Island

about	— " —	2200 acres (Ares)
Lesset Conn's	100 "	2109
Tent Island		75
		Ares = <u>2184</u>

Enclose copy of mine to you of the 7th
with copy of sketch then enclosed, at
time of writing yours of 18th February you
do not seem to have received these.

Few farming men would like to live
on an Island among Indians, so the
real value of the place cannot be expected
by the vendors. They ask \$1000. and \$100⁰⁰
additional would have to be paid to their port
for the land at \$1 or \$2 per acre. The improvements,
clearing &c must have cost much more than
that sum. Mr Conn told me he had
worked 10 years on it, and he is said to
have worked hard.

It occurs to me to mention that as the

Dominion Surveyor of Indian Reserves has surveyed the claim, a purchaser would save cost of resurvey, as the Provincial government doubtless would take his notes - A Crown grant & believe costs \$75.00

I am Sir
(Signed) J. M. Broadbent

J. R. Cornwall
Victoria 28th Feby. 1880

Sir

In further reference to the memorandum on the general principles of land assignments for Indians in the Interior dated 1st July 1880 and sent through you to Ottawa and more particularly in reference to the important question therein discussed as the gross area required for cattle. I beg to enclose copy of an official letter from the magistrate at Lytton to the Governor dated 25th July 1865 showing that at that time, when the bunch grass generally was not greatly eaten off, 30 acres per head were necessary, in the opinion of Mr. Chapot of Lytton and 50 acres per head were necessary in the opinion of the Miss^{es} Cornwall.

Much of the land assigned by me is inferior to the land at Hat Creek, so far as I can ascertain, and if the above were taken as a standard the acreage of most of the reserves would require to be increased but the whole question is one of much difficulty, and among numerous conflicting opinions, I have done the best I could on my own judgment in

each case. Will you oblige me by sending this additional information to Ottawa as the question may be there discussed

I am Sir
Your obedt. servant
J. M. Broadbent

Extracts from letter to Hon. A. N. Macdonald
dated Lytton 25th July 1865

Signed P. H. Mind

"Mr. Chapot a butcher and Castle owner at Lytton says that he estimates one hundred head of cattle would require 3000 acres of good bunch grass land to keep them in condition and not injure the pasture."

The Miss^{es} Cornwall say that one beast requires 50 acres of the land they apply for in Hat Creek in order that no deterioration may take place in the grass

British Columbia.
Indian Reserve Commission.

Victoria 1st March 1880

Sir,

I send herewith for your information memoranda as to various reserves as per annexed list.

Though these memoranda contain 260 pages of manuscript, there are other documents, connected with the main land reserves visited by me, which the Department

should have copies of, and which it would take a copyist at least a fortnight's work to copy.

The former Commission did not transmit back home any specific information as to their actions other than that contained in their formal Minutes of Decision of and journal of their movements, but having found a lack of information in the Colonial Records as to old Indian questions which I had to examine, those from the first kept full notes, and am thus able to supply you with the above information.

When acting as joint Commissioner I sent you my reports from various places on the Coast visited in the winter 1876 & 1877 to be copied if you thought fit, and afterwards sent to the Minister, and these I think you have in your office.

I propose next week this week to be engaged in preparing the formal Minutes of Decision for Nicola & Nechako in such shape as to enable them to be sent to the Prov. Govt. for Land Office examination of Field notes and transference of Reserves in due course.

Thereafter the New Westminster District will come naturally under examination and you can tell me whether the bare Minutes of Decision will suffice for your information or whether, as to that District, you would wish the same full information as that furnished for the unknown reserves - and the same as to the Coast District.

This

involves simply a question of time. I should have mentioned that I have voluminous notes and sketches as to the Reserve for the Lytton Indians proper and Cook's Ferry and Bonaparte Indians not yet formulated into a minute as the whole adjustment is hung up owing to water questions.

Having received from Rev. Westminister the statement of the movements of the Thornton when I was absent from her, I send you a list of her whole movements, which, as I have said, do not show the movements of the Commission. That will appear in the regular reports.

I am Sir

J. W. Powell Esq. M.D.
Dr. Geffat

Your obd^t Serv^c
J. M. Spratt, Com.

List of Memoranda

1. Upper Nicola Indians - commonly known as Shil'Heaten
2. Lytton Indians proper - their grass at Hamilton Ch
3. Nicola, Mancet Ind. - commonly known as ha-wanen-tah
4. Goldwater Indians
5. Lower Nicola Inds. commonly called "mud Inds"
6. Lower Nicola Inds. commonly known as "Potato gardens" special Reserve near ditto
7. Lower Nicola
8. Thompson River
9. Lytton Indians Skuppal sub-group
10. Kanaka & Saska Flat Inds.
11. Porteauqas Indians
12. Bear Lake Bar Indians
13. Spazzum Indians
14. Upper Similkameen Indians

J. R. C.

Victoria 1 March 1880

Sir

I beg to hand you a letter of
13 Feb 1880 from Mr. Charles, Nicola Valley,
to me, but which is for your attention,
and I also annex copy of my reply to
Mr. Charles of this date.

The matter is
dealt with in the memo as to "Cold Water
Indians" sent to you to day.

No interference
with the water assigned should be permitted.

I am Sir
Your obedtnt Servt
G. W. Powell

J. W. Powell Esq. M.P.
Mr. Supdt. Victoria }

Victoria J. R. C
1 March 1880

Sir,

In returning the enclosed, namely,
copy of letter from settlers at Douglas Lake
13 Jan 1, to Mr. Lenihan and a letter to same
of same date from Mr. Murray, Douglas Lake.
They to say that you will find the question
of commissaries at Douglas Lake dealt with
among other matters in the minute as to Douglas
Lake reserves sent to you to day.

I may add
that it seems to me that the Indians should
not take upon themselves to drive off white
men's cattle. They should complain to the agent
if any obstacle to their enjoyment of the pasture is
interposed, or if the area is being overgrazed.

J. W. Powell Esq. M.P.
Mr. Supdt. Victoria }

I am Sir &c
G. W. Powell Esq. M.P.

J. R. C.

Victoria 1 March 1880

Dear Sir,

Dr. Powell will in future be the proper
Officer to whom you should address yourself
as to Indian questions after I have adjusted the
lands. In your case I have expressed the opinion
that the Indians at Jevaskais place should
have the prior claim for 20 inches and I would
not advise you to raise any question as to this
but endeavour to get on quietly with your Indian
neighbours who, if old matters were gone into,
would appear to have, in my opinion, much
to complain of.

I am &c &c
J. W. Powell Esq. M.P.

Mr. Charles Esq. M.P.
Nicola Valley }

B.C. H.M.C. Victoria
3rd March 1880

Sir.
In reference to the trespass of the
Chinaman upon the land of the
Sugne Indians at Comox 13ac on the
right bank of the Puntledge above Lefroy,
I beg to enclose a sketch showing
in red, the piece of land on which
the Chinaman took up was
permitted (under the arrangement I made)
to work as a miner. It is said
that he has, since, with the help of
several other Chinamen worked upon
the land northward from the piece
marked red, sham as a beach
alien land in the sketch & perhaps
they have entirely spoilt it. Also
much wished the piece for cultivation
& it was a favour to allow the Chinamen
to remain in the neighbourhood still
I am Sir.

Yours etc
(S) G. Grant

J.W. Powell Esq.
Indian Agent

H.M.C. Victoria 4th March 1880
Sir,

I have received your letter of today
and in reply beg to state that the Commr^m
considered that having power to assign land
for the absolute use of the Indians, they had
power also to assign it for their limited use,
when the interests of the white settlers required
such limitation.

The Gov. were duly advised of the
communior assigned at Okanagan in 1877
and the report of the Commr^m were I believe
laid before the House of Assembly and no objection
has ever been made to their action that I
have heard of.

In addition to the authority derived
from both Govt under the original agreement
of the 6th Jan^r 1876 I had special authority
for the whole Yale District under a Gov.
Gov Order in Council 26 April 178 of which I
enclose a copy.

Having nevertheless to have the views
of the Gov. on so interesting a question
as that of communior, I wrote to them from
Vancouver 17th July 1878 but no notice was taken
of my letter.

There is looking to the near future
no other adequate winterage for the Indians
in that quarter but to make the land a
reserve and not a common would materially
damage if not ruin the settlers in the
immediate neighbourhood hence my action.

A division of the one giving the Indians
a portion for winterage was not feasible
owing to the nature of the ground and the

impossibility of finding.

My decision was the same as in the Okanagan case except that I did not undertake to say what white settler should enjoy the pasture.

It stated however similarly that if the Commissioner arrangements cannot be carried out the land then to be a Reserve in which event the Department might, at Douglas Lake, save the interests of the settlers by granting grazing privileges.

The Commissioner however is the best way in my judgment and I should think an agent of the Dept might intervene to carry out what was agreed upon.

I asked the Dept you to state what kind of conveyances would be required from the Prov. Gov. for reserves in general and at the same time mentioned Commissioner and the question was referred to the Crown Lands Dept which stated that "Letters patent" would be required for the reserves, and that the Commissioner should be set apart as such by the Prov. Gov.

Mc Powell Esq. M.A.S. I am on
Indubt P. G. McRae
Crown

J. H. b. Vict 4 March 1880.

Sir

I enclose a short memo on the case of the Chinaman who has intruded on the Reserve at Barron's Bar.

In answer to your enquiry of today I think if he has not ceased to act that Mr. Thos Seward is the only J. P. over Dytton

but except on an information laid before him and a guarantee as to expenses I doubt if he would act in the matter.

The Indian probably have already complained to him, and I may respectfully suggest that you interchange telegrams with him on the present position of the matter, or as the weather is very severe and Mr. Seward lies several miles out of Dytton you might telegraph to William Michel Indian at Dytton paying for the return message.

Wm Geo. Cosen of Dytton is not a J. P. unless lately appointed but he collects taxes for the Prov. Gov. and is a sort of half Gov. agent or correspondent. He could make inquiries, but the cheapest way would be to ask the Indian by telegram or letter. To Michel's wife can send writing. If the Chinaman are still trespassing there I may suggest that in this the first case of ejectment it might be well to take legal advice.

The first question will be whether the Gov. proposes, in all such cases, to appeal to the ordinary tribunals of the country or whether you will act under the power which the Ind Act gives you particularly Clause 12.

The Indian Act except clauses 25, 26, 27, 28 which are suspended by Regulation is in force here and I am advised is superior to any Prov. legislation.

On being satisfied of the fact of intrusion you warrant sent to George Cosen

or Mrs. Earl or other "literate person" willing to act (there is no sheriff near Dytton") would be sufficient (see Blance 12) and be a very simple way of acting. But I imagine you would have to guarantee expenses there being afterwards recoverable from the party concerned.

Mr. Knobell M.D. I am re
Ind Lnd. to Misswood
law

Memo on the case of the intrusion of Tuk-yon, and it is alleged, other Chinamen on Indian lands at Laramie Bar on the right bank of the Fraser, about 14 miles above Dytton.

These lands have not been conveyed from the Province to the Dominion and were only assigned as Ind. lands by the Rec. Comm. in July 1875. The lands are within the railway reserve.

In laying off the reserve it was necessary to include a piece of ground on which Tuk-yon, a Chinaman was mining. This person having made a ditch and incurred expenditure had a moral claim not to be summarily dispossessed hence the arrangement was made that the piece of ground on which he was working should be included in the Ind. Res. by that Tuk-yon should be permitted to continue mining on that piece of ground and on that alone until it was exhausted. A map was given to Tuk-yon showing in red the piece of ground to which this permission

extended. The idea was that by not summarily removing him, he might get back his expenditure. It was very clearly explained to Tuk-yon in the presence of the Indians, that he would incur legal penalties if he worked outside the specified ground, and in particular and at the special request of Alice, an industrious Sioux Indian, Tuk-yon was warned not to touch any part of the bench northward from where he was entitled to work, known as Alice's bench, Alice having determined to cultivate that bench.

It is alleged that immediately after the above arrangement was made, Tuk-yon got several other Chinamen and leaving work on the permitted ground, attacked Alice's bench, and probably has already in the course of mining spoiled the bench for agricultural purposes, to the loss and disappointment of the Indians.

If these allegations are true the act of Tuk-yon considering especially the leniency shown him is a gross outrage and I suggest that he and the others be summarily ejected from all parts of the reserve and fined under the Indian Act.

The Reserve is unsurveyed but its boundaries are stated in the annexed extract from the decision of the Rec. Comm:

S. G. Mt. 4 March 1880

The boundaries of the Ind. Res. at Laramie's bar are as follows. From the right bank of the Fraser River at the south

end of Cumberland Flat tree west 30 chain
thence due north to strike Neganquit Creek
thence down right bank of said creek
to Fraser River thence along right bank
of Fraser River to initial point.

To G. M. Sheppard

Incl. his Commiss.

to Commissioner

Indian Reserve Drawer Victoria
5 March 1880

Sir

The Indians wish to remain
where they are in Alert Bay, on
the spot where the Admiralty Chart
1860 shows they had a village or house.
They had a graveyard where it
now is, 15 years ago at least.

I think they can be
affected without any undesirable
interference with your taking a
cultivated land by drawing the lines
of the reserve as shown on the
encl'd sketch which please to
return by the "Lion" with any comments
which you would wish to make
as I will do the best & can to but
all concerned.

The Indians will require
firewood and access to freshwater stream
but beyond these residential requirements
and the graveyard site there need not
be any interference with your except
privileges under your existing lease.

The Indians also wish for a piece
of land on both sides of the Nunkish
at its mouth, & irrespectively of their
demands, I think, viewing the number
of different tribes who get their salmon
from that river. It is possible that
the Nunkish may by & by be a
commercial or industrial centre, the assignment of
land there would be prudent from
the point of view of the goods, &
the old village site ^{of course} would be
included.

These arrangements, I would hope,
will practically have the effect of leaving
your present relations with the
Indians undisturbed.

Lam Li
Your obedt Servt
G. M. Sheppard
Com

A. W. Huson Esq^r
Alert Bay

Victoria 6 March 1880

Sir,

In reference to your letter of today I may mention that the lands of the Okanagan Indians on which the Okanagans are said to have resided are not surveyed and cannot in consequence be conveyed by the Province to the Dominion.

If the Dominion Govt cannot interfere to protect Indian lands during the interval between their assignment and their survey many of them lands will be greatly damaged or ruined more particularly pastoral lands.

The work of the Commission survey to the great progress lately made it is to ahead of the surveye that your letter suggests to me that provided Mr. Coulter has come to a decided arrangement with the Dom Govt as regards water questions and the Okanagan and Osoyoos matters an additional party should be sent out say one party to work in the West Dist, a second from Yale up the wagon road, & a third Spallumcheen Okanagan & Osoyoos. The Dom Land Dept, I should think would probably wish to have the boundary of the Ind Lands known as soon as possible within the railway reserve.

I.C. Powell by M.R. I am
most hon. to G.W. Sproat

P.S. I suppose that in the ensuing session of the Local House an act will be passed conveying the Railway lands to the Dom Govt A considerable number of assigned but unsurveyed Ind Reserves are within these lands, and as regards these I imagine though they will have to be surveyed that the general conveyance of the whole land might suffice without particular conveyance

for the individual Ind Res.
P.M.

Victoria

9th March 1880

Dear Sir

Please say to Casimir in reply to his letter of the 21st which has only today reached me, that I have given Dr. Powell a sketch of the land assigned by me to the Indians at Star River and asked him to do what is necessary to stop intrusions thereon

Yours truly
Sigd. G.W. Sproat

J. Allard Esq
Langley

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 9th March 1880

Sir

The apportionment of the expenditure of \$ 7883.00 from 1 Aug 1879 to 31 Jan'y 1880, for which on their completion, you will have vouchers in due course, is (subject to a precise analysis which Mr. Blenkinsop on his recovery from illness will make) approximately as follows.

	Per Day
Transport	16. 11
Courier Pay	10. 00
Census Taker & Seal assist'	4. 00
Cook	1. 83
Explorer	3. 00
Interpreter	1. 00
Food & Board	5. 00
Summ's disbursed by Mr Blenkinsop in Petty Cash & Charts, Medicines	3. 18
legal advice &c &c.	
<hr/>	
	<u>\$ 43.62</u>

I have been every day hoping that Mr Blenkinsop would be able to resume his duties, but he does not improve, and I have therefore this morning gone through the vouchers to make a rough apportionment with the idea that the Department at Ottawa might wish to have the information in order to answer any questions in the House, and for this reason I now send it to you.

I am Sir
Your obdt Servt
signed G. M. Sprott

J. H. Powell Esq
Indian Superintendent

J. H. b. Victoria 9th March 1880

Sir

In reply to your note of today enclosing an original letter from Mr. Rogers to you of 5th March 1880, and asking my views on the proposal therein contained, I beg leave to return the letter and to enclose a memorandum on the subject.

I am &c
J. H. b.
H. L. M. D. P. M. M. M.
Supt Ind. Victoria.

J. H. b. Victoria 9th Mar 1880

Mem on Mr. A. G. Rogers proposal to exchange a portion of his land at Cowichan for a portion of the Supt. Ind. Res. there.

1. The Ind. Reserve at Cowichan contains good land but is considerably cut up by water courses, and I think the Dept. will require fully all the ^{available} land within the present line when subdivision takes place.

2. The lake from which the Indians get water is partly within the reserve and partly on land held by Mr. Rogers, but perhaps the best and producing piece of land is on Mr. Rogers land. As to this however I have no personal information, for the Indians did not mention the well question at any formal or other interview with the Commission when at Cowichan, but only afterwards when the Commission was at Samish, and Mr. Molan was then despatched to return and look at the place and some other places respecting which full information was required.

Mr. Molan could not with a pocket compass decide whether Mr. Rogers house was on the line or not. Mr. Green's formal survey shows

that a small part about 4 feet of the house is on the reserve, but as small as hardly to amount to an encumbrance.

McGreer reported 5 Sept 1878 as follows.

"I have also to report that Mr. Rogers' new dwelling house is on the reserve 319 R & Shawinigan Dist. the end of the house being 6 links within the line. There are no other improvements within the Reserve but the house which I value at \$175 exclusive of lumber on the ground.

Again on the 15 Oct 1878

"With regard to Mr. Rogers' house, that gentleman is now residing in Victoria and I did not see him. His neighbour Mr. Dugan informed me that he and Mr. Rogers surveyed the line between the reserve and Mr. Rogers' claim with a pocket compass & that Mr. Rogers put up his house within the line as surveyed by them. It is merely a difference of 50 links in a distance of 26 chains between the two surveys.

Under the above circumstances I do not know how the Indians might view the proposed change, supposing the Dept to be satisfied that they could safely surrender a portion of the available Bowichan land. The Commissioners did not make new boundaries at the portion of the reserve in question but confirmed the old name there with boundaries to be ascertained by the Dominion Surveyor.

My views as to the general inexpediency of tampering with the Bowichan Indian land adjustment are too well known to require repetition.

S^o J. McPheron
Crown &

J.H.B. Victoria 10 March 1880
Sir

In reply to your letter of the 21st Jan^r to which I have not been sooner able to reply I enclose a sketch which will show you the Indian lands near Capt. Jeannette and your own.

There is a piece in dispute with Mr. John Walker and Mr. C. Wilson is to have from the Govt a piece in lieu of his former claim.

W. Brown Esq
Agincourt
New Westminster

I am &
McPheron
Crown

J.H.B. Victoria 9 Mar 1880

Sir

I beg to enclose copy of a letter received by me (only today though it is dated 21 ulto) from Bammin the Saugay Chief complaining of an encumbrance upon land assigned by the Reserve Commr - as Ind. Land at Stave River.

It is not stated where the encumbrance has taken place. I enclose for your information a sketch of the Ind. lands at Stave River and also at the neighbouring village of Ohanoos. The Saugays & the Ohanoos are closely allied & parson to use portions of their lands in common.

I am &
W. Brown Esq AD P^o
Ind. Sub.

McPheron

P. B. I.R.B. Victoria 15 Mar 1880

Sir

In view of the Dominion Land Department in the province being desirous at an early date of disposing of Dom.-land & water privileges, I beg to bring to your notice that within their lands there are unsettled questions respecting the land & water privilege of Indians which I should think should be adjusted, if possible without further delay to prevent embarrassment.

(2) The Reserve Comrⁿ - having in mind the possibility of Railway construction in B.C. have examined the Indian land question along the whole line from Kinnaird Inlet to about 50 miles up the N. Thompson River from Kamloops and have made every possible effort to adjust matters, but the prolonged inaction of the Prov. Govt with respect to questions requiring their cooperation & more particularly that of water for irrigation has prevented a final adjustment in some places.

(3) The country having been thoroughly examined & the requirements of the Indians being known there is nothing to be done that would require much time provided the Prov. Govt. would cooperate, but, pending a final adjustment of Indian land question it would be undesirable that the Dom.-Govt should alienate lands & particularly water rights within a radius of say 10 miles from the junction of the Bonaparte & Thompson rivers or along both sides of the Thompson river between the Bonaparte river & books Bay or within a radius of 10 miles from Lytton.

(4) At Yale the final adjustment has been purposely left open until it is known what portion of the existing reserve within the town will be required for railway purposes, & pending a decision on that point the unoccupied lots in the suburbs of the town or townsites on the opposite side of the river from Yale have

been temporarily reserved by the Comrⁿ.

I beg to enclose copy of a letter which I wrote on the 13 Oct 1879 to the Sup. Govt. on the subject of arranging with the Indians for the passage of the railway through their lands a matter which if railway construction is to be undertaken, will require attention soon.

I do hereby by M.D. I am &

Enclosed

G. W. Spratt
Comrⁿ

B. C. I.R.B. Nicola ^{10th Sept 1880}

Memorandum of arrangement in the matter of the question between Lower Nicola Indians and Paul Johnston Geller who holds the lot 115 Group 1 that was held by Robert Little and before him by Augustus Williams Snashburn under a presumption record by the latter dated 25th May 1870 which lot includes the Indian settlement known as Footab formerly a favorite Indian residential and cultivated place, occupied more particularly by the family of Pooh now deceased (brother of the present chief Mawesstakum) who was deprived of the place without compensation.

The question presented peculiar difficulties from the history of the case, the very strong feelings of the Indians with respect to it, and from the land having passed through the hands of several owners, but finally the following arrangement was come to, as the only practicable compromise.

W^m Geller will convey to the Depⁿ Com^r of Land Affairs for the use of the Indians

the far simpler of a plot of ten acres of good land with frontage on lower Nicola River, mostly capable of being irrigated, selected by the undersigned and by the Indians within lot 115 Group 1. and at its southwest corner as shown by the following tracing from the Departmental Plan.

Tracing

McGillivray also will give the Indians the use of his ditch for conveying their water to irrigate the above land, the Indians keeping the ditch in repair, and further will give for the use of the Indians for 25 years from this date the privilege during April and May and no longer in every year of entering upon the meadow land on the shore of Nicola Lake forming the southern boundary of lot 115 Group 1. for the purpose of digging, collecting, and removing in their old way and in such quantities as the Indians may require the natural root called "Beet" a main item of their article of food.

The Indians are not to have any right or interest in McGillivray's ditch or ditches, and they are to keep the ten acre plot of ground strongly fenced, and the houses and surroundings neat & clean, so as not to be an unsightly object on McGillivray's farm; and with respect to the meadow land, the Indians are not to encamp thereon nor take dogs or animals upon it, nor break down McGillivray's fences.

In consideration of McGillivray carrying out his part of the above arrangement, the undersigned will submit to the Indian Department, the whole

of the Indians concerned that a detached portion of 500 acres of Indian Reserve, mountain pasture as shown by the following tracing from the Departmental Plan should be granted free of cost to McGillivray and will respectfully recommend the arrangement for approval.

Tracing

J. H. C. B.C. Victoria

22 March 1880

Sir,

In reference to page 24 of Nicola Mount Field Minute I beg to enclose Memorandum in the matter between Lower Nicola Indians & Paul Johnston McGillivray

J. G. Lovell Esq. M.D.

I am &
Yours truly
P. McGillivray
Comr.

J. H. C.

Lord Hes. Comr.

Sir

Victoria 25th Mar 1880

In a separate letter of this date I beg to hand you the necessary documents to enable you to obtain a surveyor from the Govt. of the portion of the Reserve laid off in 1878 which have since been surveyed namely (1) Minutes of Decision (2) Survey Plan (3) Govt. Field Notes; & in the present I now beg to enclose the papers required by yourself, namely, (1) The Minutes of Decision for the above, copied into a book, with marginal note referring to the pages of the Field Notes where the several names and any particular questions connected with them are mentioned. The date of the decisions are mentioned in each case as regards both land & water. (2) the survey plan numbered

1 to 10 together with a Reference Map which will show the locality of the several reserves. (3) The surveyor's original field notes which it has not been thought necessary to have attested on oath as required in the case of the duplicates sent to the Govt. The copies of these & other Indians dealt with in 1878 were sent to the Indian Ind. Sup. at New West.

If on examining this paper you find that you require anything further connected with them, I will furnish you with whatever may be in my power. I am etc
Ito b sent for M^C
Ind. Sup. (P) G. M. Great

H.S. The Govt. as the provincial Govt. were informed on the 20th May last of our opinion that the reserves should be converted by Letter Patent (Crown Grant) & that commonage should be set apart by Order in Council but I do not know in what form it is necessary to secure the water privileges of the Indians H.M.C.

B. C. I. H. S.

Sir,

Kit 25 Mar 1880

Herewith I beg to hand you the Minutes of Decisions for that portion of the work of the Survey done in 1878 which has since been surveyed, and I also hand you survey plans numbered 1 to 10, also a Reference Map for the same and the surveyor's field notes (duplicates) duly attested on oath by them. These documents have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Provincial Land Amendment Act 1879 and the resolution of the House of Assembly in the last session with respect to the gazetting of Ind. Res. and they are sent to you instead of being sent direct by the

Govern^r to the Govt. Gov in accordance with our conversation on that subject. You will notice that almost for the first time in the history of Ind. Land Allotment in this Province a detailed statement of water required for irrigating Indian Lands is contained in these Decisions. It may be necessary to consider whether some law deputation is not required with respect to irrigation water for Indians not being persons entitled to hold land under the land act, they would seem to be precluded from securing water under clause 48 of the Land Act 1875 & as against the legal name of a white settler I do not know what could be set up except a supposed fair equitable right on the part of the Indians similar to the right which they may have to land for their subsistence and use within the province water being necessary in cultivation over a great extent of the country. The subject is not specifically mentioned in the agreement as to the Ind. Land Question between the two Govts. 6th Jan 176 & the Govern^r has not been able to obtain any governmental declaration or action thereon, but there is no reason to doubt that the Govt. is at least morally bound by that agreement to do what is necessary to secure effectively to the Indians the water necessary for their agricultural and other uses otherwise the assignment of available lands for the Indians would have no meaning.

Ito b sent for M^C

Ind. Sup.

(P) G. M. Great
Govern^r

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

March 30. 1880

Sir.

In reference to a notice dated 20th March in the Gazette stating that the land of Mr. P. L. Anderson, Lot 425 Group 1 among others, has been surveyed, and that he should prove up his claim, I beg to state that the Dominion Surveyor informs me that Mr. Anderson's line encroaches upon the Indian Reserve at Hamilton's Creek at a part of it which has been an old Indian settlement, and I have therefore to ask that you will be good enough to note the fact and not permit the issuing of papers for land which as an Indian Settlement could not at any time have been legally preempted or acquired, and which also is part of the Reserve assigned in 1878.

The Hon: The Ch: Comr^r.
Lawson Work, Victoria

Dear Sir, Your Ob^r Servt
J. W. Powell Esq^r
Adm^r, Empressal
The City of Victoria

Head office letter
given to Dr. Powell
on 4th Dec^r

Ind. Res. Com^r

Victoria 5 April 1880

In answer to your letter of Saturday I beg to say that there has been no delay on my part in regard to the accounts.

They cannot be closed until I am placed in funds for that purpose, and the owner of the Schooner and Mr. Powell

complain that they cannot get the money that is due to them, and I hope there may be no delay in placing me in funds, when the amounts can be paid and the account closed.

Not being able for the above reason to close the accounts, I send you statement with vouchers as per enclosed list, and also a memorandum on field allowance as you requested, further a statement with vouchers, showing the actual sum that will have to be paid out by me on being placed in funds. This is however merely for your information, as under the existing arrangement, the loss will be mine.

I am Sir & a
J. W. Powell Esq^r & S^r, Empressal
The City of Victoria

Copy

Cash statement with vouchers No^s 6, 7
in triplicate showing \$796⁵² due me
(No^s 602 and 607 unopened not being
fully paid,

Memorandum Field allowance

Statement of items of expenditure,
with vouchers in triplicate Nos 1 to 81
78.79. 80.781 unpaid
balance shown as due \$759.31.

Memorandum on Field allowance

The field allowance principle has existed from the starting of the Commission, and was adopted by the Dominion Gov^r on the proposal of the Provincial Gov^r (see letter No. 8133, 21 June 1877)

(from the Deputy of the Minister of the Interior
to the Gov. Com^{ee})

On the reorganisation of the Com^{ee} in March 1878, see correspondence brought to a point by the letter of the Deputy of the Minister 7567, 25 March, the application of the principle was extended, so as for £30⁰⁰ per diem to include all expenditures, at the risk of the Com^{ee}, for the Indian Reserve Commission proper, that is to say, the party, not including the expense of the Attendant Surveyor which was properly a Survey expense, and not including the expense connected with the Census-Taker which was regarded as a Departmental expense. No other arrangement was made on the reorganisation of the Commission, and accounts and audits have been in accordance.

But, some reduction in total cost appearing to be possible, Mr. Spott, in letter 23 Aug. 1878, made an offer to undertake that, for £12⁰⁰ per diem more than £30⁰⁰ instead of the larger sum than £12⁰⁰ per diem which had been incurred in respect of the Surveyor and Census-Taker, he would carry on the whole work, that is to say £42⁰⁰ per diem for everything in the field.

This arrangement to reduce the total expenditure was sanctioned by the Dep^t. See letters of the Deputy of the Minister no 10348, 18 Sept. 1878, and 10348 14 Oct. 1878 and accounts and audits have been in accordance.

During the

first 10 months of the existence of the Com^{ee} only ten months were spent in the field. During the next 20 months, with a single Com^{ee}, 16 months were spent in the field work, thus, as it is only field work that counts for purposes, there was, in addition to the above reduction, a saving practically of 6 months' expenditure written the latter as compared with the former time.

Date 6th. 5 April 1880

J. W. Procator,
Gov. Superior Auditor?

Estimated Expenditure Indian Reserve
Commissioner B.C. Columbia for year
Ending 30 June 1881

If at work in the interior

Pay

Dr. Rev. Comt.	per di 10 ⁰⁰
Co. ass't & Conscript	- 5 ⁰⁰
Interpreter	- 2 ⁰⁰
Explorers in lieu of regular Serv ^{ce}	- 3 ⁰⁰
Cook	- 1 ⁵⁰
Hood Cutter & Camp assistant	- 1 ⁵⁰

23.50

Board

8 Men (the above 6 + 2 packers)
average ca 1⁰⁰ per di } 8.00

Transport

Assuming that the 3 horses
{ animals are found fit for work }

19 Riding Black Horses ea 1⁰⁰ per di 19.00
to include pay of packer & man

Occasional Feed for animals
during the season when grass
is not convenient per di 1.50

52.00

From the 1st April to 31, how -
244 ds @ 52⁰⁰ per di 12,688.00

Carried forward

Amount forwarded 12,688.00

Spent as follows

Occasional Services of regular surgeon
in the field. Expenses of party
baggage & stores b & t from Victoria
Repairs to Native Furniture & Tent 1000.00
Three new Tents, Shelling Horses.
Indian messengers - Game, Medicine
Ammunition, Stamps &c

In winter quarters

Pay & Board of Commissioner -
Assistant - Draughtman & Copyist -
Office expenses &c
Four M^r. average day 25⁰⁰ per di 3025.00

816713.00

If employed on the Coast

The total cost while at work would,
provided the same schooner was hired
be as follows. The saving would arise
from the principal part of the fitting of
the Schooner being available

244 ds @ 38⁰⁰ per di 9272.00
In winter quarters as above 3025. 12,297.00

Victoria B.C.
12 July 1881

S. G. M. Spott

H. R. Com^{ee}
Victoria April 12/1850

Sir,

In reference to the letter of the Hon^eble Ch^r Com^{ee} of Land & Works to you of the 10th inst, handed to me for my observations thereon, I beg respectfully to state that it is not clear whether the Chief Com^{ee} considers the "Survey" or the "Allotments" of the Nicola Reserve unsatisfactory.

If the surveys are objected to, I have to state that they have been made, as required by the Provincial Govt. in conformity with the Local Amendment Act 1879.

If the Chief Com^{ee} letter refers to the allotment of the Reserve as unsatisfactory and not to be accepted, I beg to say that in allotting them I acted as much for the Govt. Govt. as for the Prov. Govt. which latter, by Order in Council dated 26 April 1878 approved of the recommendation that my decisions as Res. Com^{ee}. should be final.

The Reserves, moreover, are suitable and not excessive, and strict attention has been paid in all cases to the position and requirements of both white and Indian Settlement.

I may remark that the Ch^r Com^{ee} has expressed the above opinion after a rapid examination, and so far as I know, without having before him, a Census of the Reserve or the information necessary to form a conclusive judgment.

The voluminous documents connected with these

Reserves were sent to his office on the 9th and his letter to you is dated the 10th inst.

I shall be glad to give any additional information respecting these Reserves.

J. M. Powell Esq M.A
Ch^r Com^{ee}
Adm. Dept. Victoria

J. R. C.

Sir Your very
Sr C. W. Spence Com^{ee}
Adm. Dept. Victoria

Victoria 16 April 1850

Sir

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th inst on the subject of the monthly accounts for February and March, and in reply beg respectfully to state that in charging for Sundays while in Victoria, I follow the practice of the Government in reference to the accounts of my predecessor the Dominion Commissioner Mr. Anderson, to whom that item was allowed without question, and I submit, too, on reasonable grounds whether the agreement between the Government in its spirit, or the nature of the case be regarded. The work which a Com^{ee} has to perform is very different from triannual operations which can be abandoned or resumed at will at certain hours; it is intellectual work, and however much one might try to withdraw ones thoughts entirely from secular matters from 12 O'clock on Saturday night until 12 O'clock on Sunday night, it is not easy to do so, and I think that any construction of the agreement based on that assumption would be a narrow one, particularly when the Com^{ee} has never followed

merely lost time, but proceeded work day by day as the exigencies of the Service required.

The allowance in Victoria was sanctioned, after a full statement of the case, in Letter from the Dep. of the Min. of the Interior to the Hon. Com^{ee} of June 1877 No 8133 1.B as per original cable herewith sent for your information, and the accounts and audits have been in accordance, the basis is simply the charge made or the would be made at the Drama House to travellers.

The Com^{ee} considered they had authority themselves to pay Mr Blenkemp's board in the same way that they arranged for the remuneration of subordinate officers, and they considered that 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ dollars a day was a reasonable rate. Your inquiry, I presume, does not refer to whether Mr Blenkemp's board should be paid or not, but should that be the case I would respectfully point out that his Officer, whose services have been of great value in pushing on the work is not overpaid while in the field, and it would not be reasonable to reduce largely his remuneration during the comparatively short time that he is not in the field, and when his work is not less, nor less dangerous.

The effect of not paying his board would be to reduce his net pay to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ a day which you will doubtless agree with me would not, in his case, be suitable.

The Board allowance charged for Mr Farwell is an error, and I thank you for calling attention to it. When a regular Surveyor was attached to the Com^{ee} his board, as in

the case of Mr Blenkemp, was paid, but it has not been the practice to pay board for persons temporarily employed.

I am Sir &c
I. W. Powell Esq M.D. & Dr G. M. Sproat
Resident Surgeon Victoria,

Victoria 27 April 1880

Sir

I beg to say that the Chilliwack Instructions for Surveyors are completed except copying, and that district would occupy a Survey party for about a month.

I am proceeding with the other portions of the district of New Westminster - preparing first the instructions for surveyors, and intending then to embody the whole notes I have to make at New Westminster District in one Memoir, in a book, instead of making separate Field Minutes for the separate groups.

The Yale portion I cannot rightly finish without some information as to railway works wants.

Various questions may arise with respect to Indian Reserves at Chilliwack & Simass and Mr Derby's scheme and I have asked Mr Farwell to separately prepare a Special Report thereon for your information & reference.

I am &c
I. W. Powell Esq
Resident Surgeon
Victoria

I am &c
Dr G. M. Sproat

Indian Res. Com^{ee}

Victoria

27 April 1880

Sir.

In further reference to the letter of the Hon. The Attorney General of the 13 inst addressed to you, and reported on by me the following day, with respect to alleged discontent at Alert Bay, and particularly in reference to a second letter from the Hon. The Attorney General dated 24 inst, which you have just handed to me for report, in which latter letter the statement is made that the statements "originally made" were founded on and "in substance borne out by the written statements of Mr. Hudson and the verbal statement of Mr. Spencer" I have the honour to call attention to the full text sent to you of all that portion of Mr. Hudson's letter to Mr. Spencer which refers to Indian matters, an extract which, though in a private letter Mr. Spencer has permitted me to make - Mr. Spencer informs me that the above letter is the only one which he had received from Mr. Hudson on the subject, and that he himself could not profess to know anything about the matter.

It was the same letter which was left at the Attorney General's Office for his perusal, and its content shows decisively that the statements made in the Attorney Gen's letter of the 24 inst now submitted to me for report are as incorrect

as those made in his former letter of the 13th inst.

I am Sir &c &c
J. M. Purcell Esq.

Indian Res. Com^{ee} Victoria

Sir G. M. Purcell

Ind. Res. Com^{ee}

Victoria 28 April 1880

Sir.

In reference to the subject of surveys of Indian Reserves mentioned in our conversation yesterday, I respectfully submit the following observations -

The general attitude of the Provincial Govt makes it desirable that, if surveys are proceeded with, the work should be done as rapidly as possible, and this seems also necessary in view of the contingencies of railway construction within the Province.

It is unfortunate that owing to circumstances known to you, it is probably undesirable to prosecute surveys in the District from head of Okanagan Lake to the frontier through that District was visited by the Reserve Commission as long ago as 1877.

Nevertheless I think 3 parties could find work during the five months of the ensuing season in the following places -

New Westminister District.
One party to go immediately to Chilliwack - that being a comparatively thickly inhabited

portion of the District, where squatters are taking up land with a view to actual settlement, and where also Mr Derby's dyking scheme affects matters.

This locality may be effected also as regards convenience of survey work by the summer freights, and possibly by the advent of the mosquito pest, so that the work should be undertaken at once, and the Surveyor having finished Chilliwack and Sumas might then work either up or down river, as the height of the water or the mosquitoes might dictate. It would be a pity I think to prosecute his course rigidly, seeing that steamboat travel on the Lower Fraser is likely to be frequent this year and cheap, and if the mosquitoes are as bad as they were last year, a party could not give good work for the expenditure.

The Provincial Govt., with respect to Islands assigned on the coast, have agreed to take them as per Admiralty Chart, but I think a survey of the Islands assigned for Indians in Fraser River will be desirable as in traversing them a few lines may be run across to determine quality and acreage. And how much liable to overflow or washing for the information of the Department.

The number of small Reserves on the Fraser will make the duration of the work longer to in proportion to acreage than the regular work of last year, as a good deal of time will be spent in moving camps about, and in travelling from

one to the other - the upstream canoeing, in particular, being difficult and expensive.

The Burnaby Inlet Reserves are not yet surveyed, so that, on the whole, there is a very considerable amount of work to be done in surveying the New Westminster district without going to Howe Sound, and perhaps it may be found that the party No. 1, now being spoken of, need not be expected to work higher up than Murderer's Bar Flat on right bank of Fraser a few miles below Hope - the Indian "Skowallach" tribes place.

The No. 2 party, designed to work up the wagon road, might perhaps connect at above place with No. 1 party, and work up River, away from No. 1 party work.

The Commission would probably have to visit Yale with him to come to a final arrangement in respect to the requirements respectively of the Indians around Yale and the Railway Authorities in conference with the latter and the same at Spurzum - both of which adjustments were made conditionally on railway requirements which now, I presume, can be definitely stated.

This No. 2 party entering as it immediately will do, the country in which water questions for irrigation arise, and having to cross and recross the Fraser, possibly in rapid water, and in very hot weather, will find only possible to make slow progress and if the No. 2 party gets up to Caméra Bar 10 or 15 miles above Lytton on right bank of Fraser

the scene of the Chinamans question
Tuk-Tuk, I think it will take up much
of the season.

A no. 3 party might
resume where Capt. Lemmetto left off in
1878 at Adams Lake, and do the Shuswap
Lake and Spallumcheen Reserves which will
take some time, and then if open questions
could be settled, he might go on with
the Okanagan (head & foot of lake, &c., &c.)
or if those were not settled he could
get back easily by water from Spallum-
cheen to Savona's Ferry, and work on
the now partially but I hope then to be
wholly adjusted Bonaparte and Coots Ferry
Reserves.

This no. 3 party might be
charged with completing the Nicola Reserve
unsurveyed, namely, those of the Coldwater.

A good way to do this
would be to go to Spallumcheen up the
Nicola Valley, and in passing Coldwater
Stream, to stop and send a man up
the valley to see if Paul's Basin was
free from snow; if not, then the surveyor
could bring the Coldwater Reserve into
his year's work, as high water, the convenience
of moving, the advance of the season might
dictate.

Adams Lake and Paul's basin
are the only two elevated places in the pro-
gramme sketched for no. 3 party.

I. W. Powell Esq M.D.
the Super. Victoria }

I am for you &
I'd be glad to see you

Indian Reserve Commission

April 30th 1880

Sir

In reference to letter to you dated
19th inst. from Mr Robert Wood about an exchange
of land at Muskeem, I have no personal
knowledge of the Indian Land adjustment
there, as it was effected by Mrs. Anderson
and McKinley before I joined the Camp.

In the journal I notice the
following.

"To those people the Commission
confirmed their old Reserve already surveyed,
containing 342 acres, and in addition assigned
a tract on Sea Island, adjacent, containing
some 80 acres of rich meadow land for hay-
making and pasture"

This addition is
described in the Minutes of Decision as "lot
8 and 9 north west corner of Sea Island".

The old Chief Semethno
went to New Westminster to ask me to try
to get the decision of the Commission amended
by including a strip of timber land behind
the Reserve, as he said the Reserve was
deficient in wood.

I do not suppose the
Indians would wish to surrender their grass
land on Sea Island.

I. W. Powell
Indian Superintendent
Victoria }

Se

I am Sir & Co
G. W. Powell

Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 30 April 1880

Sir

I beg to hand you herewith copies of letters from Bayil or William the chief of the Okanagan Indians (head of lake) dated 12 March last, also an undated letter from Isaac, an Okanagan Indian, both on the question between these Indians and Mr O'Keefe.

I beg to enclose also copy of my letter of 26 April 1879 to the Superintendent General, in which I forwarded a letter from William to him, upon the same subject.

Chilliwack has communicated with me several times on the same subject -

I do not know what to say in reply to these letters

I. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Sup't Victoria

I am Sir &c &
Dr G. M. Groves

I. R. Com^{rs}

Victoria 4 May 1880

Sir

In reference to what is known as the Spahats Flat dispute, I beg to enclose for your information copy of Field minute thereon, and of my letter of 18 August 1878 to the Chief Commr. of Lands.

I have repeatedly brought this case to the notice of both governments -

Its nature and the length of time during which efforts for redress have been unavailly have appear to require decisive action in the interest of justice, and to end a dispute which has caused great bitterness on the part of the sufferers

I. W. Powell Esq. Ind. S.
Indian Superintendent

I am &c &c
Dr G. M. Groves

Indian Res Com^{rs}

Victoria 4 May 1880

Chilliwack

Sir

Mr. G. C. Millan, the Clerk of the Municipal Council at Chilliwack, wishes to buy a strip of the Skalkayn Reserve at Chilliwack River for the purpose of a getting a straight road from the main road to his home.

I enclose copy of his letter to me 24 April 1879 and of my reply 26th ibid.

I may say that I examined the question on the ground with the Indians, and they consented to dispose of, not an acre but about half an acre, and they left the price to me which I estimated should be \$2500 for the half acre, but that was before the rise of property consequent on railway construction.

As Mr. Millan is sure to apply to you again, I directed Capt. Jammetto to mark on the ground and on his notes the piece which thus may be disposed of, so that when the time comes you could act without further examination.

It might appear to be the simplest way to cut the piece off now and get the money, but the difficulty is that any ^{land} cut off a Reserve by me goes back to the Province under the existing Indian Land agreement, and Mr. Mc. Gillivray would then have to acquire the strip from the Provincial Govt. The Indians got getting the money consideration for surrendering the land which induced them to consent.

I therefore imagine the strip will have to be conveyed in the regular way from the Department to Mr. Mc. Gillivray by and by.

With respect to the disposition of the money, I do not know the Departmental usage, but I may mention that the Skukayna Indians themselves have subdivided their Reserve and that an Indian - "Suk. sal. mit" or Charles in April 1879 possessed the division from which the strip would be cut off, and perhaps the people would expect him to get the money.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Superintendent

Sir.

I beg to enclose sketch of a portion of the Skukayna Reserve, showing, in red, the portion of land (about $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre), which has to be marked on the ground and in your notes, in case the Department should sell it to Mr. Mc. Gillivray, who wishes to get more direct access to his farm
Cap. Jernott
Challiwack

I am & on
Sd. G. Sprout Com.

Victoria 4 May 1880

Sd. ^{Yours very truly}
G. Sprout J. R. C.

Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 5 May 1880.

Sir,

Having noticed that the House of Assembly has directed that the Government should print papers connected with the Indian Reserve adjustments, I beg to mention that the Provincial Govt has not referred to me for report a petition which I have told has been sent by settlers at Nicola to that Government with respect to Indian Reserves there. I think that it will not be right to print that petition without also obtaining from me and printing with it the comments which I am prepared to make upon the subject for the information of the Government and the House, and I therefore beg that you will obtain for me the opportunity of making those comments.

I am &
J. W. Powell Esq. Ind. S.
Indians Super.

Sd. G. Sprout Com.

J. R. C.
Victoria 6 May 1880

Sir,

In reference to the petition sent to the Dom. Govt. from settlers in Nicola respecting Indian Reserves, I have been informed that a similar petition was sent to the Prov. Govt. and I shall be glad, if you will cause the Prov. Govt. to be furnished with a copy of my report made to you on the petition that was sent by settlers to the Dom. Govt.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Super.

I am &
Sd. G. Sprout Com.

Sir

Victoria 8 May 1880

At an interview with Messrs. Mc Murray and Harris to-day with respect to Chilliwack Reserves, I explained all matters to them, and I think satisfactorily both as to the assignment of lands, and as to the circumstances in which, from local knowledge of places and persons, I conceive the resolution of the Municipal Council originated. Will you be good enough to say if you wish me to report upon the enclosed (Letter from Mr D. McMillan to you 27 April 1880) to enable you to reply thereto.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Super.

Sir I am & &
G. M. Sprout.

Victoria 11 May 1880

Sir,

I beg to enclose my Report on the Chilliwack Municipal Council's resolution contained in the letter of Mr D. McMillan to you, 27 April last, (herein it is referred to), and I further enclose a copy of the Report which I shall beg you to send to the Prov. Govt., as Mr. McMillan states that he also had addressed that Government on the subject.

I am Sir.

Your obedt Servt
S. G. M. Sprout
Govt on

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Super.
Victoria

I. R. C.

Sir,

Victoria 11 May 1880

Referring to mine of 28 ult. as to surveys, I beg to suggest that Mr. Mohun should survey the reserves at Hazelton instead of Capt. Lemmette, as he had conversations with the Indians respecting their lands, and lives there, and as there are a few questions which I could not completely adjust as the land was several feet under water.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Superintendence

I am Sir or a
St. G. M. Sprout

Ind. Res. Com on
British Columbia

Victoria 10 May 1880

The undersigned has the honour to submit the following report on a letter dated 27 April 1880, from Mr. D. McMillan, Clerk of the Municipal Council at Chilliwack to J. W. Powell Esq. M.D. Indian Superintendent, on the subject of Indian Reserves in the Chilliwack Municipality.

It is not obvious to the undersigned what the position assumed by the Municipal Council at Chilliwack (for this year, is, in passing the resolution of Council, of which the Clerk sends a copy in the above letter).

The undersigned, while at Chilliwack, consulted with the then existing Councilors, and with the settlers, generally, in reference to the Reserves, and he has obtained a useful detailed

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report on all the reserves from one of the most influential members of the Council several months before the Commission visited the places.

The undersigned, nevertheless, conforms to the request made that he should submit a few observations on the views of the Municipal Council, (for this year, as expressed in the Clerk's letter.

The Indian Reserves at Chilliwack were last marked off in the autumn of 1868, and at that time there were about 16 settled in what is now the Municipality.

The district has now a considerable population - the voters' list is about 80, and when the Reserve Commission arrived on the ground nearly all the reserves were so hemmed in by the farms and claims of white settlers, or by rivers, that any extension of them by including adjoining lands was not, as a rule, possible.

This remark applies to Skwah A. Skwah B. Skwah C. Shway Skwah. a. pilt. Skwi. a. ala. akt. sa. Gitz - Skulkayn A. Skulkayn Band Ya. kue. a. kin. oow.

The only remaining Reserve, Soo. wak. lie. (or Cutts Lake Reserve) could have been enlarged, and has been enlarged from adjoining lands in order to square it up, but the land is only suitable as a poor summer run for stock, or for timber.

One would suppose that these facts should be known to the Municipal Council of Chilliwack (for this year), as they were known

to their predecessors in office who discussed the matter with the undersigned.

It might also be expected that the Municipal Council (for this year,) would have ascertained the facts of the case before passing an incorrect resolution which state that "detached reserves small reserves ones scattered all over the country have been assigned in Chilliwack."

A statement of the facts as to detached reserves in Chilliwack may here be made -

The Skulkayn and Ya. kue. a. kin. oow reserves had to be enlarged to secure a moderate acreage per adult, and the adjoining land was free, but upon it four settlers, one of whom a gentleman with a wife and six children, had squatted with, apparently, a bona fide intention to make homes.

The question of what the Reserve Commission would do in this matter created a lively interest in Chilliwack, and a public meeting, of which Mr. Wells J.P. was Chairman, was held to urge the undersigned to find a piece of land detached from Ya. kue. a. kin. oow that is to say, to urge him to do what the Municipal Council (for this year) now condemns.

It was gratifying to the undersigned, after a tedious and difficult negotiation, to effect an adjustment by which the Indians were justified satisfied, and the above white squatter left undisturbed, but this involved the necessity of giving the Indians a piece of land - a piece pointed out by a Committee of white residents - detached from the Ya. kue. a. kin. oow

reverse.

The next "detached" piece of land in the Chilliwack Indian reserves is 160 acres of grass land on the "Big Prairie". This is not for subdivision among the Indians, nor for their residence; it is assigned as hayland for all the Indians of Chilliwack - numbering over 100 men.

The Indians had not a single acre on the "Big Prairie", and considering their number, the general character of the existing reserves and the stock which the Indians now have, and may be expected to possess, it will not, the undersigned thinks, be considered unreasonable that they should have the little share which this allotment gives them in the natural grass on the "Big Prairie" which is so easily secured, and of such value for the preservation of stock in hard winter.

The Indians, hitherto, have been in the habit of cutting wild hay in any unfenced portions of the settlement, but this they cannot continue to do as the lands on which they continued to cut hay have been fenced.

A further "detached" piece of land is on Hope Slough. It was necessary to find some additional land for the Skwah group of Indians to make up a reasonable acreage for subdivision and in lieu of extensive portions of their principal reserve which have been, and may be, washed away by Fraser River.

The land on this additional piece is covered with timber and brush and there are several sloughs on it, also an Indian

honor and old potato patch formerly cultivated by a Skwah Indian.

To find a piece of suitable land on the conditions impliedly stated by the Municipal Council, that it should not, now, nor in the future, be amongst white settlers would not have been possible.

The Indians are for good or evil part and parcel of the general population of the province, and it would be difficult to find suitable land for them that did not now, touch, or would not in the future touch the lands of white men.

Concentration of Indian lands is highly desirable for administrative reasons, especially, but it cannot be always fully accomplished - for instance, as shown above, concentrating the Ga. Kwe. a. Kamoose lands would have disturbed four squatters who with their families may become useful settlers.

The Skwah main reserves are on Hope Slough, and could not be enlarged for the reason already stated, namely, that they are surrounded by the claims of white settlers.

Naturally, then, the undersigned, in seeking for an additional piece of land for the Skwah group of Indians made an examination of the Hope Slough banks, as being the old locality of the people, and as the slough would afford water carriage to the main village for produce.

On what grounds the Municipal Council of Chilliwack (for this year) have formed an opinion that the "best interests" of the white people must be prejudiced in 1880 by the growing

of potatoes on the bank of Hope Slough by a few of the Indians who have been settled on the main reserves on that slough since before the first settlement of the country, or by the possession of about 12 acres of hayland on the prairie by each Chilliwack Indian, the undersigned is unable to understand.

Sd Gm Sproat
Con^r

British Columbia
Re. Res. Com^r

Victoria 13 May 1880

Sir.

In this respect to Chilliwack please to lay down carefully on your plans the line of the 66 foot highway leading to Kipp's Landing, as far as it goes through the Reserve.

The Indians have fenced to leave only 40 feet, but they are not to be required to move their fence without Departmental orders, which did not originally sanction any road being constructed.

I mention this merely for your information

Your obdt Servt
Sd Gm Sproat
Con^r

Cop. Hammett
New Westminster

J. R. Com^r

Victoria 13 May 1880

Sir.

On conversing with the two Skwawmish Indians whom you sent to day to see me, I find that they have been sent to Victoria to find the location, on the map, of certain unoccupied but assigned Indian Reserves on the Skwawmish River - Hornedome.

The map of these reserves has, I think, been probably taken from your office by Mr. Munro, as several East coast names &c reserves lately visited by him are on the same chart, but Mr. Farwell has to day made a tracing of all the Skwawmish River Reserves from the Post Office place thereof, and this will be given to day to the Indians who return by steamer to morrow to New Westminster.

I am Sir to you
Sd Gm Sproat Con^r

J. W. Powell Esq. }
Indian Superintendent }

J. R. Com^r

Victoria 13 May 1880

Sir.

Respecting my conversation on the 12 inst., in which you advised that Cap. Hammett should survey first, the Stave River Reserve, I beg to enclose copy of my letter to that gentleman of this date on that subject, and also copy of mine of same date to him respecting the highway to Kipp's Landing at Chilliwack.

I am &c
Sd Gm Sproat
Con^r

J. W. Powell Esq. M.L.A.
Ind Sup. Victoria

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British ColumbiaIndian Reserve Commission.
1878See County
Letter of
21st Oct 1878Minutes of Decisions.

In Virtue of powers and instructions from the governments of Canada and British Columbia, authorizing me to fix and determine the number, extent, and locality of the Reserves or Reserves to be allowed to the Indians of British Columbia. I, the undersigned, having in each case made full enquiry on the spot, into all matters affecting the question Hereby Declared the following to be the Reserves for the undermentioned Indian Tribes respectively.

The Date of my decision is stated in each case.

Wm Aproat Comr

Douglas & Nicola Lakes.Upper Nicola Indians.

To Reserve in Townships xcvi and xcvi; bounded as follows, the courses being from the true meridian.

From a post on eastern shore of Nicola Lake at southwest corner of lot 215, 41° east 19,166 links; thence south $88^{\circ} 27'$ west 4,927 links; thence north 4,000 links; thence west 8,012 links; thence south $88^{\circ} 27'$ west 1937 links; thence north $23^{\circ} 35'$ west 8,707 links; thence east 1428 links; thence

ASD
28
1878

north 4,000 links; thence east 4,000 links; thence north 12,079 links; thence west 5,469 links; thence southwesterly along eastern shore of Nicola Lake to initial point.

28 Oct
1878

A Reserve at mouth of Hamilton's or McDonald's Creek, being lot 111 Group 1 Township xcvi.

28 Oct
1878

A Reserve at Douglas Lake bounded as follows, the courses being from the true meridian.

From a post on north shore of Douglas lake north 48,753 links; thence west 20,000 links; thence south 16,000 links; thence west 8,000 links; thence south 12,000 links; thence west 4,000 links ($\frac{1}{4}$ s 134 14. T. xcvi) thence south 13,000 links; thence east 5,000 links; thence south 5,000 links; thence east 4,000 links; thence south 16,000 links; thence east 31,000 links; thence north 25,573 links; to post on south shore of Douglas lake; thence westerly along south shore of Douglas lake to its outlet; thence easterly along north shore of Douglas lake to initial point.

28 Oct
1878

A Reserve on Spahoomish Creek (which flows from south east into Douglas lake near its foot) bounded

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as follows, all courses being from the true meridian.

From a post on right bank of Salmon Creek north 4,000 links; thence east 8,000 links; thence south 4,000 links; thence west 8,000 links to initial point.

28 JF
1878

To Reserve at Chapperon Lake
bounded as follows the courses being from the true meridian.

From a post at north end of lake north 867 links; thence west 9,343 links; thence south 9,471 links; thence east 1,000 links; thence south 539 links; thence east 13,834 links to post on west shore of Chapperon lake; thence northerly along western shore of Chapperon lake to initial point.

28 JF
1878

To Reserve on Major Chapperon Creek (about 3/4 of a mile east of Chapperon lake.) bounded as follows the courses being from the true meridian.

From a post near the left bank of the creek west 1,500 links; thence south 1,000 links; thence east 1,500 links; thence north 1,000 links to initial point.

28 JF
1878

To Reserve at Salmon Lake
bounded as follows, the courses being from the true meridian.

From a post on the north shore of Salmon lake north 5,200 links; thence east 1,600 links; thence north 5,800 links; thence east 13,60 links; to left bank of Salmon River; thence southerly up left bank of ^{Salmon} River to outlet of lake; thence southerly and westerly along shore of lake to initial point.

28 JF
1878

1878

Upon the tract of land within the unenumerated boundaries, except lot 360 Group 1, a right of pasture for cattle is given for the Indians, but so as not to exclude the cattle of white settlers, unless in the opinion of the Indian Department, the land is being overgrazed & likely to suffer permanent deterioration as winter pasture. The word cattle shall extend to and include horses, mares, fillies, foals, geldings, colts, bulls, bullocks, cows, heifers, steers, calves, mules, and asses, but shall not include sheep, goats, or hogs.

If this arrangement which appears to be the best for both the white settlers and the Indians cannot be carried out, this tract of land except lot 360 Group 1 to be Indian Reserve. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on the north shore of Douglas lake north 48,752 links; thence east 55,891 links; thence south 19,471 link; thence west 5,788 links; thence south 1995-19,471 link; thence west 1996 link; thence south 4,614 links; thence west 2,571 link; thence south 4,000 links; thence west 36,837 links; thence south 9,227 links; to the boundary of lot 362 Group 1; thence southwesterly along the boundary of lot 362 Group 1 to the north shore of Douglas lake, thence westerly along north shore of Douglas lake to initial point.

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Nicola and Mamet Rivers.
Lower Nicola Indians.

A. Reserve, near the junction of the Nicola and Mamet Rivers, to include all the land within the undesignated boundaries except lot 129 Group 1. The courses are from the true meridian.

From the north east corner of lot 128 Group 1, north 6,275 links; thence east 1,550 link; thence north 4,000 links; thence east 2,000 links; thence north 5,000 links; thence west 3,000 links; thence south 13,000 links; thence west 3,000 links; thence south 2,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence south 2,000 links; thence west 2,000 links; thence west 2,000 links; thence south 14,400 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence south 10,000 links; thence west 1,000 link; thence south 18,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence south 2,000 links; thence east 1,400 links to post on left bank of Mamet River; thence southerly along left bank of Mamet River to north west corner of lot 131 Group 1; thence east 4,383 links to north east corner

D.S.W.

5 M.P.
1878

D.S.W.

1878

D.S.W.

1878

of lot 131 Group 1. Thence south 6,000 links to south east corner of lot 131 Group 1, on right bank of Nicola River; thence up right bank of Nicola River to a point opposite the ~~south~~ north east corner of lot 130 Group 1. thence southerly across River to the north east corner of lot 130 G. 1. thence south $14^{\circ} 15'$ west 1,966 links to south west corner of lot 128 Group 1, thence south $73^{\circ} 33'$ east 7,725 links to south east corner of lot 128 G. 1. thence north $46^{\circ} 50'$ ^{east 6923 links} ~~west~~ to initial point.

A. Reserve near the junction of the Nicola and Goldwater Rivers bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From the north east corner of Section 10 Township xci south 7,000 links; thence east 4,000 links; thence north 3,000 links; thence east 1,000 links; thence north 4,000 links; thence west 5,000 links to initial point.

A. Reserve at the fork of the Mamet River, about twenty five miles from the Nicola River, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on the left bank of the Mamet River west 4,000 links; thence north 5,500 links; thence east

6,000 links; thence south 5,000 links to initial point.

A Reserve near foot of Nicola Lake, bounded as follows, the courses being from the true meridian.

10 Sep
1878

From the north east corner of section 15 Township XCIV, north 12,500 links; thence east 4,000 links; thence south 12,500 links; thence west 4,000 links to initial point.

To be
conveyed
to Capt
G. E. G.
Paul
Johnstone
Gillie
see
memo.
page
dated 10
A of 1878.

A Reserve at the southwest corner of dot 115 Group 1 bounded as follows the courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on right bank of Nicola River north along west boundary of dot 115 Group 1 2,000 links, thence east 1,500 links; thence south 2,100 links to right bank of Nicola River thence down right bank of River to initial point.

10 Sep
1878

A Reserve near the foot of Nicola lake bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From quarter section post sections 29 & 32 Township XCIII north 3,000 links; thence east 1,000 links; thence north 1,000 links; thence east 1,000 links thence north 2,000 links; thence east

3,000 links; thence south 2,000 links thence west 1,000 links; thence south 1,000 links; thence west 1,000 links; thence south 1,000 links; thence west 1,000 link; thence south 2,000 links; thence west 2,000 links to initial point.

A Reserve on Hamilton, otherwise called Mc Donald's Creek, (at its bend) bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian

10 Sep
1878

From a post on steep bank above Hamilton's Creek, east 1,500 link thence north 3,000 links; thence west 1,500 links; thence south 3,000 links to initial point.

A Reserve near the foot of Nicola Lake, as follows, viz:

10 Sep
1878

The north east quarter of section 25 Township XCII and the southwest quarter of section 31 Township XCIII

This land is not to be enclosed, cultivated, or occupied by the Indians until the other agricultural lands of the Nicola Mammel Indians are found by the Indian Department to be insufficient in area, and if this does not take place within ten years from the 10th September 1878 the above portions of land are to revert to the Province.

Hamilton's Creek, Nicola
Syston, Indians.

1878
12 Aug

A Reserve on Hamilton's, otherwise called McDonald's Creek, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on left bank of Hamilton's Creek west 18,000 links; thence south 24,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence south 8,000 links; thence east 16,000 links; thence north 16,000 links; thence east 2,000 links; thence north 8,000 links; thence east 3,000 links; thence north 8,000 links to initial point.

~~A Reserve on the Nicola River about eleven miles from Spences Bridge bounded as follows the courses from the true meridian.~~

~~From a post on the left bank of the Nicola River west 14,000 links; thence south 18,000 links; thence east 12,000 links; thence south 4,000 links;~~

Nicola River.

Lower Nicola Indians.

23rd July

1879

A Reserve near the junction of the Nicola & Spences Rivers, and east of the latter, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post east 14,000 links; thence north 2,000 links; thence west 14,000 links; thence south 2,000 links to initial point.

26 Aug
1878

A Reserve about one and a half miles east of the Nicola River, and about twenty five miles from Spences Bridge bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post near a stream running westerly, and falling into the Nicola River east 2,000 links; thence north 12,000 links; thence east 5,000 links; thence south 4,000 links; thence east 5,000 links; thence south 16,000 links; thence west 12,000 links; thence north 8,000 links to initial point.

A Reserve on the Nicola
River about twenty three miles from
Spences Bridge, bounded as follows

From a post on the right bank
of the Niobrara River east 1,378 links; thence
south 3,000 links; thence east 3,000 links;
thence south 6,000 links; thence east 1,000
links; thence south 4,000 links; thence with 1,000 links;
thence east 1,000 links; thence south
2,000 links; thence east 2,000 links; thence
south 1,000 links; thence east 2,000 links
thence south 2,000 links; thence east 1,000 links
thence south 1,000 links; thence east 3,000 links
thence with 6,000 links; thence west 1,000
links; thence south 3,000 links; thence east
2,000 links; thence south 10,200 links to post
on left bank of Niobrara River; thence up left
bank of Niobrara River south east by about 7,000
links; thence south 5,880 links; thence west
4,000 links; thence with 5,000 links; thence
west 1,000 links; thence north 1,000 links;
thence west 1,000 links, thence south 1,000
links; thence west 1,000 links; thence south
1,000 links; thence west 1,000 links; thence
north 1,000 links; thence west 2,000 links;
north 2,000 links; thence west 6,000 links; thence
north 3,000 links; thence east 5,000 links; thence
north 3,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence
north 9,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence
north 1,000 links; thence west 2,000
links; thence south 1,000 links; thence west
1,000 links; thence north 1,000 links, thence

26 Aug
1878

went 3,000 links; thence north 3,000 links; thence west 1,000 links; thence north 2,000 links; thence west 3,000 links; thence north 4,000 links; thence west 1,000 links; thence north 5,000 links; thence west 1,000 links; thence north 3,000 links; thence west 2,000 links; thence north 3,942 links to left bank of the Nicola River; thence southward up the left bank of the Nicola River about 5,000 links, to a point opposite the initial point, thence east 2,38 links to initial point on the right bank of the Nicola River.

A Reserve on the Nicola River about eleven miles from Spur's Bridge bounded as follows. The corners are from the true meridian.

20
Aug
1878

From a port on the left bank of the Nicola River went 10,000 links; thence south 18,000 links; thence east 12,000 links; thence south 6,000 links; thence east 9,000 links; thence south 4,000 links; thence east 15,000 links; thence north 7,580 links to port on right bank of Nicola River; thence southeasterly up right bank of Nicola River (including small island) about 12,000 links to a port on right bank of the Nicola River; thence east 2,000 links; thence north 5,000 links; thence west 3,000 links; thence north 2,000 links; thence east 1,000 links; thence north 1,000 link thence west 4,000 links; thence north 4,000 links; thence west 1,000 link; thence north 2,000 links; thence west 3,000 links; thence north 2,000 links; thence west 4,000 links; thence north 1,000 links; thence west 2,000 links; thence north 2,000 links; thence west 3,000 links.

then west 1,000 links; then west 3,000 links;
then west 1,000 links; then west 1,000 links;
then west 2,000 links; then west 3,407 links
to post on left bank of Nicola River; then
northwestly down the left bank of the Nicola
River to initial point.

20 Aug

1878

A Reserve near the "State
Gardens" Nicola Valley bounded as follows
The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on bank of a dry
ravine south 10,000 links; then east 2,000
links; then south 6,000 links; then east
14,000 links; then north 16,000 links; then
west 16,000 link to initial point.

20 Aug

1878

A Reserve near the "State
Gardens" Nicola Valley bounded as follows
The courses are from the true meridian

From a post east 4,000 links; then
west 8,000 links; then east 5,000 links; then
south 4,000 links; then west 4,000 links; then
west 1,000 link; then west 5,000 links; then
north 13,000 links to initial point.

Thompson & Nicola Rivers.
Kicominik Indians.

A Reserve on the left bank
of the Nicola River about 10½ miles from
Cook's Ferry, bounded as follows. The courses
are from the true meridian.

16 Aug
1878

From a post on the left bank of
the Nicola River west 3,000 links; then
north 5,000 links; then west 1,000 links
then north 2,000 links; then east
887 link to left bank of Nicola River;
then up left bank of Nicola River to
initial point.

13 July
1878

A Reserve on the
Meinin Cook's Ferry trail about twelve
miles from the junction of the Thompson
& Meinin Rivers, bounded as follows.
The courses are from the true meridian

From a post north 500 links;
then east 4,000 links; then north
5,000 links; then west 4,000 links to
initial point.

A Reserve on the Mamin
Nickle trail about 7 miles from the
junction of the Thompson & Mamin
Rivers, bounded as follows. The course an
from the true meridian.

13 July 1878 From a post near a small lake
north 3,000 links; then east 4,000 links;
then north 2,000 links; then east 4,000 links;
then north 1,000 links; then east 5,000 links;
then south 3,000 links; then west 3,000 links;
then south 2,000 links; then west 2,000 links;
then north 1,000 links; then west 1,000 links;
then north 2,000 links; then west 1,000 links;
then north 1,000 links; then west 1,000 links;
then north 1,000 links; then west 2,000 links
to initial point.

13 July 1878 A Reserve on the mountain
above the "Mudslide" bounded as follows.
The course an from the true meridian
From a post west 4,000 links;
then north 3,000 links; then east 2,000
links; then south 1,000 links; then east
2,000 links; then north 4,000 links to initial
point.

A Reserve on the mountain
above the "Mudslide" bounded as follows.
The course an from the true meridian
From a post on the west bank
13 July 1878 of the "Whit-lake" west 8,000 links;
then north 8,000 links; then east 12,000
links; then north 2,000 links; then east
1,000 links; then south 12,000 links; then
west 8,000 links; then north 2,000 links;
to initial point.

A Reserve on the Mamin
River immediately above the waterfall
bounded as follows. The course an from
the true meridian.

13 July 1878 From a post at the foot of the
mountain on the west side of the Mamin
River north 1,000 links; then west
2,000 links; then north 1,000 links;
then west 1,000 links; then north 1,000
links; then west 2,000 links; then
north 1,000 links; then west 1,000 links;
then north 1,000 links; then east
3,000 links; then south 1,000 links; then
east 1,000 links; then south 1,000 links;
then east 2,000 links; then south
1,000 links; then east 1,000 links; then
south 2,000 links; then west 1,000 links
to initial point.

A Reserve on the left bank of the Thompson River near the 68 mile post from Yale, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

13
July
1878

From a post on the south side of the wagon road south $9^{\circ} 52'$ east 1628 links; thence north $80^{\circ} 8'$ east 4045 links; thence north $9^{\circ} 52'$ west 700 links; thence east 2000 links; thence north 3000 links; thence west 3000 links; thence south 1541 links; thence south $80^{\circ} 8'$ west 562 links to post by wagon road; thence southwesterly along wagon road to initial point.

13
July
1878

A Reserve on the right bank of the Thompson River, opposite the 67 mile post from Yale, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

From a post on the right bank of the Thompson River north 867 links; thence west 2000 links; thence south 1000 links; thence east 1340 links; to right bank of Thompson River; thence up the right bank of the Thompson River to initial point.

A Reserve on the right bank of the Thompson River, nearly opposite the 68 mile post from Yale, bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

13
July
1878

From a post on the right bank of Thompson River north 518 links; thence west 1000 links; thence south 777 links to right bank of Thompson River; thence up right bank of Thompson River to initial point.

A Reserve on the right bank of the Thompson River nearly opposite the 71 mile post from Yale bounded as follows. The courses are from the true meridian.

13
July
1878

From a post on the right bank of the Thompson River south 2000 links; thence east 1000 links; thence north 805 links to right bank of the Thompson River; thence up the right bank of the Thompson River to initial point.

A Reserve on the left bank
of the Thompson River near the 71 mile
post from Yale, bounded as follows. The
course an from the ten meridian.

13 July

1878

From a post near the right bank
of Sackum Creek north 2000 links; thence
west 1000 links; thence south 2000 links;
thence east 1000 links to initial point.

A Reserve on the right
bank of the Thompson River nearly opposite
the 72 mile post from Yale, bounded as
follows. The course an from the ten
meridian.

19

July

1878

From a post on the right bank
of the Thompson River west 1956 links;
thence north 2000 links; thence west 1000
links; thence north 1000 links; thence
west 1000 links; thence south 2000 links;
thence east ^{1000 links north 2000 links then} 903 links to the right bank
bank of the Thompson River; thence
down the right bank of the Thompson
River to initial point.

A Reserve on the right
bank of the Thompson River nearly
opposite the 74 mile post from Yale
bounded as follows. The course an from
the ten meridian.

13

July

1878

From a post on the right bank
of the Thompson River west 455 links
thence south 2000 links; thence east
1339 links, thence up the right bank
of the Thompson River to initial point.

Nicola River.

Brooks' Ferry Indians.

A Reserve on the right
bank of the Nicola River about seven
miles from Spences Bridge, bounded
as follows. The course an from the
ten meridian.

16

Aug

1878

From a post on the right
bank of the Nicola River east 4900
links; thence south 8000 links; thence
west 422 links to right bank of the
Nicola River; thence northwesterly
down the right bank of the Nicola
River to initial point.

Water Privileges.

The full right of the Indians, respectively of record, to take, divert, and use all the water which they require from lakes, rivers, streams, springs and other sources of water supply for the purpose of irrigating their reserve, and for milling and mining purposes, and for domestic purposes at their respective villages, houses and places of resort, and for other purposes, is declared and confirmed so far as the undersigned has authority in the matter, together with all necessary right of way for ditches and flumes and conveyance of the said water and the undersigned hereby fixes and determines the following quantities of water, or the quantities required from the undesignated sources of supply for the undesignated Indians for irrigation, milling, mining, domestic and other purposes; the word "inch" to mean the quantity of water that will pass through an orifice one inch square, and not exceeding two inches in length, with a constant head of six inches above the centre of the orifice, equivalent to 2,112 cubic feet per day of 24 hours and in case of waste or damage being occasioned to the land of persons being now Indians by the right of entry & conveyance of the water on and through their lands for Indian purposes, the compensation to such persons is to be determined in case of dispute in such manner as the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, and the Superintendent-General

of Indian Affairs or his agent may agree upon

Upper Nicola Indians.
(Billabuton's tribe).

Sacks	Sources of Supply
235	Upper Nicola River, that is Nicola River above Nicola Lake
800	Spah-ó-min Creek.
200	Murray Creek.
10	Two springs near the western boundary of the reserve at the foot of Douglas Lake as shown on the plan

Sept 28 1878

Sixes, Nicola Indians
(Nawesitkum tribe).

inches	Sources of Supply.
800	Mannet River
225	Sixes Nicola River that is Nick River below Nicola Lake.
200	Dalley's Creek otherwise called Blafferton's creek.
20	A little mountain stream known as Joeyaska's Creek flowing toward the Goldwater.
10	Hamilton's or McDonald's Creek
10	A little stream flowing from the west into Hamilton's Creek, through Dogan's River.

12 8 Lly 1875 " 2 Lly 1875 10 2 Lly 1875 5 Th 1878

Sixes, Indians.

inches	Sources of Supply.
75	Hamilton's Creek.
20	Two little streams flowing from the west toward Hamilton's Creek, about 5 miles from Nicola Lake.
12	

5 Lly 1878

Lower Nicola Indians.
(From the Reserve down the River.)

Stches	Sources of Supply
120	From a stream about a mile east from the Reserve (near the junction of the Nicola & Spences Rivers, and east of the latter,) running northward to the lower Nicola River also from two small watercourses leading from the south of the reserve, all from all watercourses within the reserve.
90	From all springs or watercourses within the grass reserve about 1½ miles east from the lower Nicola River, and about 25 miles from Spences Bridge, also from the two streams which flow westward to the lower Nicola River, through the reserve on its right bank about twenty three miles from Spences Bridge.
125	From a stream flowing easterly into the Spences River about 3½ miles from its junction with the lower Nicola River.
200	From the Mountie River & its tributaries
60	From a stream flowing through the Reserve easterly to the lower Nicola River
30	From a stream in the mountains back from the left bank of the lower

Aug 1878

Aug 1878

Aug 1878

23 July 1879

Sources of supply.

26 August 1879

130	From the lower Nicola River.
75	From Shuckum stream which flows into the lower Nicola River nearly opposite the Potato gardens.
20	From a stream flowing into the lower Nicola River near the lower end of Mr John Duballi farm.
20	From a watercourse which leads from the west of the Reserve, & passes through the Reserve which is about 11 miles from Spences Bridge up the lower Nicola River.

Sources of supply.

Nicola River, and west from Montane's farm on its right bank.

Nicomin Indians

16 Aug 1870

13 July 1870

- Lackner
Sources of supply.
- 130 From a stream known as the Maykik or lith flowing through the Reserve on the left bank of the lower Nicola River about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Spence Bridge.
- 75 From a stream called Skayne which flows from Squamish easterly into the lower Nicola River also from springs within the Reserve on the Miminoo Brook being trail about 12 miles from the junction of the Thompson & Miminoo Rivers.
- 50 From a small lake at Enkhall Reserve and from a stream flowing southwesterly to Skukut now used by "Frank" an Indian.
- 100 From three lakes about three miles south from Skukut, and from a stream which flows from these lakes to Skukut.
- 50 From the Miminoo River.
- 50 From a stream which it is proposed to dam, which flows through the Reserve at the 108 mile post from Yale into the Thompson River.
- 20 From a small stream called Shashkot which flows into H. Thompson River opposite 67 mile post from Yale.

13 July 1870

Lackner
20

- Sources of supply.
- From a small stream called Nupahpulqutum which flows into the Thompson River nearly opposite the 67 mile post from Yale.
- 20 From a small stream called Skhpowtz, which flows into the Thompson River nearly opposite the 71 mile post from Yale.
- 20 From the stream called Lackner which flows into the Thompson River close to the 71 mile post from Yale and from the Enkhall or other lakes in which it heads.
- 20 From a stream called Kivalulat which runs in an easterly direction nearly up to the west boundary line of the Kluk-kosut Reserve which is nearly opposite the 72 mile post from Yale.
- 100 From a stream called Metis which flows into the Thompson River nearly opposite the 74 mile post from Yale.

Koot's Ferry Indians

16 August 1873

B.C. 1873 J.

stches

Sources of Supply.

130 From a stream called "Kloklowach" which flows southwardly through the Kloklowach Reserve into the Lower Nicola River about 7 miles above Spence's Barley.

20 From a stream which runs westerly through a high bank at the southern end of the Kloklowach Reserve.

All the water in the lakes, ponds, springs, swamps & streams within or partly within, or flowing through the Syammy Reserve above the Middlelie on the left bank of the Thompson River is reserved for the use of the Indians in irrigation and other purposes and to afford drinking water for their stock, but so as not to exclude the cattle of settlers from using that portion of the water of lakes and ponds which can be used by such cattle from the banks of the portion of each lake and ponds that is outside the Syammy Reserve.

The Indians are to have access to and to be at liberty to carry on, as formerly, their fishing for the various kinds of fish, at their accustomed fishing places, and more particularly in Salmon Lake, Salmon River, and the creek falling into Salmon River a little below the lake, Trout Lake, Upper Shappurun Creek falling into Shappurun lake, lower Shappurun Creek connecting Shappurun lake with the Upper Nicola River, Spokimine Creek, Minni lake the Upper and lower Nicola Rivers, Hamilton's or McDonald's Creek, Holdwater River, Mamet Lake, Mamet River, Rpoon stream and the Thompson River, but the undersigned informed the Indians that with respect to fish of the salmon kind, their capture out of season should be discouraged unless required urgently for food, and that the Indians should not at any time destroy salmon roe or take it for use or sale. The Indians were also informed in answer to their inquiries as to their position in reference to hunting on Crown lands that it was not the practice of the Crown to forbid or place any obstacles in the way of its subjects whether Indians or non Indians in that matter, but this tacit permission of the Crown did not extend to lands which had been acquired by individuals or corporations or for Indian purposes nor to districts in which the legislature had made regulations in the common interest of Indians & non Indians to prevent the destruction of game at improper seasons.

The Reserves mentioned in this Minutes
are shown on the accompanying Plans, numbered
1 to 10 and Reserve Map.

Albert Maliseur Speed
Commissioner

Ind. Res. Com.

Victoria 5 April 1880

Sir

I have received your letter of the 17th
and send you a rough sketch of the
reserves at Kicimew Slough which please
return and mark where you propose
taking up land, and I will endeavour
to let you know as soon as you can
whether your place will be interfering with
Indian lands. It is somewhat difficult
to say exactly until the survey is made.

Ronald Stewart Esq.
Somen
Hd. Res. Com.

Same day in a
S. G. Speed Com.

Sir

Victoria 5 April 1880

It has been arranged that Mr.
Foy's place will not be included in
the Indian Res. at Chemainus (Oyster Harbor)
Your truly
Ronald Gordon Esq.
Oyster Harbor.

S. G. Speed Com.

Ind. Res. Comt.

Victoria 7 April 1880

Sir

I beg to enclose Cash Statement and
Vouchers 1 to 17 in Triplicate for February, and
also Cash Statement and Vouchers 1 to 9 in
Triplicate for March last, and shall be
glad of the money therfor, as soon as
possible, as the parties are applying for
the amount to.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Hd. Sup't Victoria

Jan & in
S. G. Speed Com.

Copy

Lanctey 5 April 1880

Sir

We the undersigned on behalf of
ourselves and our tribe, commonly known
as the Langley Indians or the Lower
Fraser hereby make complaint to you
that William, Joseph and Samuel Sheanon
and a white man called Alice / we
think Alice Robertown, intruded upon the
Land Section 2, Township 15, after it had
been assigned for the use of the Langley
Indians by the Hd. Res. Comt., and have
been cutting the trees into logs, and
are cutting trees there now. The undersigned
Casimir before winter having seen Mr. Sheanon
at Langley gave him notice that the
above Land was Indian land reserved
for them by the Reserve Comt.

On Sunday last Casimir with most
of his people went upon the above land,

and again told Mr. Shannon that the land belonged to the Indians.

The Langley Indians have been prevented by the above intrusion from making use of the land this spring, and they, by the undersigned, their representatives, beg that you will afford them redress by causing the white men to remove.

We are yours very respectfully
J. Casimir & Chaffy of the Langley
S. Charley & Headman of the
Langley two brothers.
In law of Casimir
Witness, J. S. Hamwell.

J. W. Powell Esq. M.D.
Ad. Sup't.

Victoria B.C.
April 8th 1880
to Res. Comr.

Sir.

In reference of the foregoing complaint of Casimir and Charley on behalf of the Langley Indians, I have to mention state that the land mentioned as having been intruded upon, viz. Section two (2), Township Fifteen, N.S., New West District was assigned by me as an Indian Reserve on the 27th June 1879.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ad. Sup't. Victoria

I have the honor
to be Sir
Your obt Servt
R. H. Sproul
Comr.

April 8th 1880

Dear Sir.

I fancy that the enclosed is all that I can do in the matter.

By Section 12 Indian Act "complaint has to be made to you" and "proof of the fact" has to be given to your satisfaction. I prove that the land is Indian land but the execution of your warrant might injure as to whether the Shannons were on Section 2. Mr. Branson's land adjoins and he no doubt has posts in and if outside Branson's land in that direction the Shannons must be on Indian land.

Yours &c.

J. W. Powell Esq.

R. H. Sproul

Could you give Casimir (Langley Head) your sketch of his Reserve at Slave River. He wants one & you could get another made for yourself.

Atto G.M.

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 14th April 1880

Sir/
For Attorney General
To you & Mr. H. C. St. John
Fated 13th
April 1880

In reference to the letter as per margin, respecting discontent alleged to exist among the Indians at Alert Bay, which you have handed to me for my observations thereon, I have to state that the letter appears to be incorrect as it is not in accordance with the communication sent to Mr. Sproul by Mr. Henson, on which the Attorney General's

letter purports to be based.

In the first place Mr Spencer has not received "letters" on the above subject; he has only received one letter.

Secondly, Mr Huson, whose original letter I have seen, does not state that the Indians have "on several occasions taken away his property". All he says is that on one occasion a few of the Indians - 4 or 5 I believe - unlawfully attempted to seize a lot of deer skins which they pitched off the wharf - an act on their part which may have had the character of an "unlawful attempt" but which may have been an act of rude bravado. The Indians did not take possession of the skins.

Thirdly Mr Huson distinctly states that the cause of the discontent "is away back" at the time "when Mr Gratt was here, and the neglect of the authorities"; and thus statement he repeats in another part of the letter in the following words "the cause dates away back in former years" "when they done as they pleased with poor Mr Gratt".

I may remark here that I have been told that Mr Gratt had the misfortune to have caused the death of an Indian by a blow - not, it is supposed, meant to do bodily harm.

The attorney general's letter is further incorrect in affirming that Mr Huson states that "since Mr Sprott visited Alert Bay, the Indians have been dissatisfied". These are not Mr Huson's words. What he says in another portion of the letter dated 2 days after the 1st instant, is that "it now

"it now seems that they have been dissatisfied about something ever since Mr Sprott was about here".

This is a very different statement, and I may explain that I am aware that Indians were displeased with me for one reason - namely because I told them that, while they would be justly treated as regards their land, Mr Huson could not be removed, nor could his improvements or business at Alert Bay be in any way damaged. I explained, further, to them that the presence and trading operations of a white citizen were for their good, and that other Indians begged me to get white traders to come among them. The better class of the Alert Bay Indians quite understood this. No complaint was made to me by the Indians respecting Mr Huson, except that he had as they expressed it, "tried to steal their land" at the mouth of the Ninkish river. Mr Huson in fact, applied to the Provincial government to purchase land there, and this had become known to the Indians, who expressed to me their dissatisfaction in very strong terms indeed. I addressed a letter on this subject on the 28th Oct 1879, as per enclosed copy, to the chief commissioner of lands and works but no notice, as far as I know, has been taken of that letter.

I may add as regards Alert Bay, the Admiralty chart of 1860 shows that the Indians had a village or houses at Alert Bay at that time, and I satisfied myself by the evidence of white witnesses that the graveyard was where it now is at Alert Bay.

as a former at least 15 years ago. Alert Bay was formerly a Keweenewelth place, and it might be held, that the Indian settlement there was protected by the agreement between Governor Douglas and the Keweenewelth people 8th Feby 1851.

I think it is to be regretted under the circumstances that the government of British Columbia on the 3rd August 1870, should have leased the whole of Cormorant Island for 21 years to Mr. Brown and others, without specially examining and adjusting Indian land questions there. I did not however express this opinion to the Indians.

I have not found the Indians unreasonable, but they naturally do not like to be put on one side in any case without their land claims being recognized to a reasonable extent.

I am etc

J. W. Powell Esq
M. S. Superintendent
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

Memorandum on letters of Mr. McMillan
Clerk of the Municipal Council, Chilliwack
30th March 1880 to J. W. Powell Esq Indian
Superintendent Victoria, and of Mr. Samuel
Farr, Chilliwack to the same 29th Mar
1880.

The road which the Council wish to construct might perhaps be permitted to be made of a certain width, but the Department, I think, would require some further information, and as a surveyor-

will probably be at Chilliwack to survey Recreves during the cornery season, it may be convenient to postpone the consideration of the question until he visits the place, and makes a report. There is no urgent necessity for action in the matter, so far as the public convenience is concerned.

It might be well to inform the Municipal Council that on the information at present before the Department it would be desirable to make an arrangement to ensure more direct communication between the Squamish and other Reserves and the Trunk road, before permitting any new road to be made to affect these reserves.

The Clerk of the Council will find in the Indian Act the law respecting highways. The practical bearing of his question is that the Council would, if you sanctioned the application of the law, sections 23 and 24, probably compel the Skwoah Indians to keep in repair the main road which for about half a mile passes through the Skwoah Reserve. This road is on softest ground and is used by the whole settlement as it leads to the Steamboat landing. Now this road was made without permission from the Department, and without compensation to the Indians, and though the time may come when you may see your way to direct that a certain amount of road labour should be performed on it by the Indians, I think that in the first place, all Chilliwack road questions should be settled fairly towards the Indians.

who, as Mr. Sproat says, feel aggrieved, particularly those whose direct access to the trunk road has been shut off.

If the Council obtain a general reply from you as to the obligation of Indians to keep roads in repair, they would act on it, and I ~~safely~~ suggest that you should inform Mr. McMullan that, until the land adjustment has further advanced you are not prepared to consider the obligations of the Indians in the Northwest District with respect to road labour, and, under any circumstances you would require full particulars in any application for the same.

I have written letters to Messrs Kipp, Reece, and McButcher today as per copies herewith, and will communicate their replies when received. The Surveyor who goes to Chillicothe can be fully informed of the position of the whole road question before he goes there, meanwhile, I send herewith explanatory documents and sketches as per annexed list.

Mr. Sproat's letter is useful, as confirming the condition of the Indians with respect to roads in general in Chillicothe.

The point of the letter, as far as he is concerned, is that if the Council were permitted to make the road mentioned and to take 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the east side of the Skewish reserve the council would also require 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the east side of his claim.

H. J. Green
H. J. Green

16th April
1880

To be sent
to Mr. Sproat
for his
information

list referred to

1. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. McMullan dated April 26th 1879. — " — " —
2. copy letter Mr. Sproat to the General Land Office and Works dated May 9th 1879 —
3. copy letter Surveyor General to Mr. Sproat dated May 12th 1879
4. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. Farwell enclosing copy of Gazette notice May 17th 1879
5. copy letter Mr. Farwell to Mr. Sproat enclosing sketch May 17th 1879.
6. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Superintendent General dated 24th May 1879.
7. copy letter Deputy Superintendent General to Mr. Sproat dated Aug. 8th 1879.
8. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. McMullan enclosing copy of Deputy Superintendent General letter of the 8 Aug 1879 — dated Sept 11th 1879.
9. Copy letter Messrs. McButcher and Reece to Mr. Sproat dated June 16th 1879.
10. copy letter Mr. McButcher to Mr. Sproat enclosing sketch dated June 16th 1879.
11. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. McButcher dated 16th April 1880
12. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. J. Reece dated April 16th 1880.
13. copy letter Mr. Sproat to Mr. H. J. Green dated April 16th 1880
14. copy letter H. J. Green to Dr. Powell dated March 29th 1880 with notes thereon
15. original of same returned
16. copy letter Dr. McMullan to Dr. Powell with notes thereon dated March 30th 1880
17. original of same returned.

Victoria 16th April 1880

Dear Sir/

Please state how the Indian roadway proposed between lots 27 and 257 now stands, as I have to report the matter to the Department and that would seem the best adjustment instead of opening up the old trail question.

Yours truly
John McLachlan
Chilliwack

Victoria April 16th 1880

Dear Sir/

You promised, when I was at Chilliwack, to give 33 feet off your own land, so that a proposed road could be made between your land and the rest side of the Skwah Reserve, without requiring the Indians to give land or move their fences. As I am now sending in my final report to the Department, and have nothing from you in writing on the above subject, will you oblige me by sending a letter in reply to this?

Yours very truly
Isaac Kipp Esq
Chilliwack

Victoria 16th April 1880

Dear Sir/

Chilliwack Indians

Kindly state to me how the question of the roadway stands on the line between lots 27 and 257, group 2 mentioned in letter of yours and the butcher to me 16th June 1879, as I am making my final report to the Department and oblige yours truly

Your Obedient Servt
Chilliwack

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 20th April 1880

Sir/

My present rehearsal of the notes of the Commission in connection with closing the Documentary work for the District of New Westminster, and the apparently early possibility of railway construction being begun at several places along the wagon road suggest to me that I may advantageously remind you of the contents of my letter of the 15th March last and especially draw attention to the enclosure therin on the subject of the passage of the railway through Indian lands. It is in my opinion, highly important in dealing with the Indians in this matter to begin well, as news of good or bad treatment spreads rapidly over a great area, and affects the minds of many tribes.

I find in my notes that the Male Indians expressed anxiety as to graves which might be injured by the passage of the railway, as far as they knew of the surveys, and that I took on myself to assure them that though nothing could be permitted to stop railway construction yet I believed the Government, in the event of railway construction being undertaken, would give timely notice to the Indians, and cause the question of removing their graves to be tenderly dealt with. The graves of Indians being protected by a stringent British Columbian ordinance, this question probably need not be affected by the paralysis of all Indian affairs which has been brought about by the late action of the Provincial government. If I might suggest some practical action on the matter, steps might be taken to obtain a report

from the different Engineers employed, as to what groves would have to be removed, and then the Department could arrange with the Indians with respect to such removals, that is to say, if the Department is not going to act immediately with reference to the whole question of the passage of the railway through Indian lands, or lands assigned for their use.

If the present state of confidence and good humour is preserved from the outset, they will be easily dealt with.

I write this, partly from having heard that a number of woodmen may soon be sent to Yale by the contractor for the railway, who probably will expect that no Indian questions should interfere with his work.

I am Sir &
Very truly yours
G. M. Sport.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

Victoria 21 April 1880

Sir

Census

I beg to hand you ^{brevet} the following -
1) Copy of Census of portion of the Shallow Lake tribe in a Book.

2) Copy of the same on sheets, as taken by Mr. Blenkinsop,

J. W. Powell Esq. M.D., and counter signed by me
Indian Superintendent

Victoria

I am very
Yrs & G. M. Sport

Private

J. R. C

24 April 1880

Sir,

The enclosed is extract from a private letter of Mr. Hudson of Alert Bay to Mr. S. A. Spencer Victoria

14 April 1880. The latter gentleman allowed me to make the extract, and I send it to you as it refers mainly to extra Commission matters. I referred to this letter in my report to you of the 14th inst respecting Mr. Walkers communication to you on Alert Bay matters dated 13th inst.

Mr. Hudson appears to have written under strong feelings of irritation, if not apprehension, but probably over this have quieted down. The Hesquia Indians, so far as I could learn, have always been very rough Indians, and it is probable that the rude conduct complained of by Mr. Hudson was limited to a few including perhaps some relation or friend of the Indian killed many years ago by Mr. McEachart.

What Mr.

Hudson says about Whiskey among these and other Indians agrees with all that I heard while in that District.

I have a letter from the Rev. A. S. Hall dated Alert Bay the 14th inst. of which I annex an extract. He mentions having had a long talk with Mr. Hudson, but

does not say a word about bad behaviour on the part of the Indians.

I am Sir. Yours truly
J. G. Thompson

Extracts

Both the Fort Rupert and Kinsol Indians are now at Alert Bay the former being called by the latter to a palliative. The Kinsol Indians are delighted at the thought of my settling among them and the chief Klats. Ko. gear said this morning that he would assist in making my shingles and in clearing away the heavy timber. The Fort Rupert, on the other hand are very sorry that I am purposing to leave them and have suggested many places about the Fort where they think I could build.

Several however have made up their mind to come here and have even staked off the ground for their houses.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ald., Sep 26
Victoria

Indian Reserve Commissioner
Victoria April 29th 1880

Sir/
I beg herewith to enclose Instructions for surveys for the Chilliwack group of Indians in accordance with the decisions of the Reserve Commission. I have kept a copy.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

Yours
J. W. Powell
by G. M. Frost
bom

Victoria 13 May 1880

Sir.

Adverting to my letter of the 11th inst with a report on the Chilliwack Council's resolution about Indian Reserves, in which, among other things, I mentioned the washing of soil from the Skwah Reserve at Hope Slough by the Fraser River, I think it will be further illustration of that Report, and for general Departmental information, to enclose herewith Mr Surveyor Farwell's Report on that subject dated 12 May 1880 with two sketches.

The washing you will see has been great - the site of the original landing laid off in 1868, being now far out in the Fraser, and there may be more washing still.

I may mention that between Decr 1878 and April 1879, a long wash took place and the stone shown on his sketch nearat the landing had to be moved back several hundred feet.

In Decr 1878 the Municipal Council applied to me to lay off a fresh landing in view of the original 1868 landing (see Mr. Farwell's Report Page 2) and I was prepared to consider the matter on my return in the spring of 1879, but after various conversations with the Councilmen and settlers, it seemed best to leave matters as they were owing to the uncertainty of the action of the river.

There is no great traffic, and the 66 foot road which runs to the river, see Sketch 2, gives apparently enough standing & turning room for teams. This is how the

Chilliwack Landing question now stands.

Should any fresh application be made for a landing there, it may be borne in mind that the existing 66 foot highway was made and gauged since Confederation (23 Nov 1878), without any permission from the Indian Department and without any compensation to the Indians, and that a landing could not now be made at the end of the road without removing houses and fresh cultivated lands of the Indians.

Public convenience, of course, would have to be considered, due compensation being made to the Indians - but, as above said, practically the width of the road seems at present to suffice at Nelly's Landing.

I am & &

J. W. Pace Esq
Superintendent
Victoria

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Com^{ee}

Victoria 13 May 1880

Sir,

I enclose instructions for Monack and Langley Indian Reserves.

It has been arranged that you shall survey first, in order of Chilliwack, the lands of the Langley and Monack or Co. a. nuck, Indians affiliated tribes - but what is wanted particularly is the survey of the Stave River reserves of those

people.

You can leave the Mt. Allan Island and adjacent Langley Reserves, and those near New Westminster belonging to the Langley Indians for survey by and bye according to any arrangements which you may find it necessary to make in view of mosquitos or high water.

There are questions at Slave River owing to the intrusion of Shaaman Broe and others on lands which I had previously assigned.

You need not discuss these questions but simply survey as per instructions and send your notes and plans as soon as possible, noting the intrusions on the plans.

Cosimir is the Langley chief name - he has been down here twice about these intrusions. He goes up by steamer to New Westminster to-morrow.

I have at present no further amendment of general instruction respecting New Westminster district to give you except that Mr. Irwin, before going to the route to be allotted to him will probably be directed to survey the Kaitoo reserves.

He will probably begin about Yale or Hope & work up wagon road for season.

I am & &
J. W. Pace Esq
Superintendent
New Westminster

295

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission.

15 May 1880.

(Murphy's case at Hope)

Sir

I beg to return herewith the original of Mr. Gore's letter to you of the 12th and its enclosure (Mr. Murphy's letter to Mr. Walkem 3 May 1880) together with my Report on the case which will explain how the matter stands. I enclose also copy of Report for the Prov. Govt.

I think it will be well for one to send a third copy to one of the white residents at Hope, with an explanatory letter, as the Indian appears to be acting under a misapprehension in claiming all the cultivable land at Kow. ka. wa.

I am Sir or we
R. G. M. Sprout Com.

J. W. Powell Esq.
Ind. Super. Victoria

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission.

Victoria 13 May 1880

In reference to letter of Mr. Surveyor General dated 12 May 1880 addressed to Lieut Col. Powell, Superintendent Indian Affairs, with an enclosed copy of a letter, dated 3 May 1880, to the Hon. The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, from Mr. Chas Murphy, Hope, relative

to a land question between him and an Indian (Tse.c. wail.in, or Bernard, the renowned head man of the group of Indians whose head quarters are at Ay-wau-wa, village at the mouth of the Coquihalla, or Kow. kow. kah. la, river, the undersigned has the honour to report

That there

is a lake a few miles beyond Hope, known to the Indians as Kow. ka. wa, but, commonly, called Big Lake, where some of the Ay. wau. wa Indians formerly grew potatoes, the seed for which, it is stated, they originally got from the Hudson Bay Co. at Langley.

The Indians

Tse.c. wail.in, has, for many years, been afraid that white men would occupy the place (the Hope reserves do not seem ever to have been assigned though orders were given in December 1859 to examine and adjust the matter) and Tse.c. wail.in, in 1875, before the Reserve Commission was appointed, or having, went to Mr. Seague Govt. Agent at Yale, and having communicated to him his apprehensions, obtained from him a paper of which the following is a copy-

Yale P.C. 27 Decr 1875.

See, wel am

The Indian Chief of Kowka-wa,

- claims for their own use and benefit a
- parcel of land above Union Bar which is
- known on the official map as the Kowka-wa
- Reservation.

W. Seague
Govt. Agent

Subsequently to the above date, namely, on the 2 May 1876, Mr Murphy recorded as a pre. emptor, 80 acres on the east side of Kow. ka wa Lake, which included the Indian land stated, above, by his League to have been an Indian Reserve, and which also would, from its history, so far as can be ascertained, come fairly within the meaning of an "Indian Settlement" in a locality where the Govt had not assigned reserves for the Indians - it was, consequently, not land that could be, legally, pre-empted.

So far as I can learn, Mr Murphy, moreover, has not conformed to the legal conditions of occupying the lands which he pre-empted.

The Indians objected to Mr Murphy's occupation of the place, and, on the 26 April 1877, that gentleman wrote a letter to Tse-e-wail, one of which the following is a copy -

"This is to certify that when the Commissioners arrive for the settlement of the land claims, should you desire the land I now hold by pre-emption at the Big lake as a part of your reservation, that I promise to withdraw my pre-emption rights in your favour upon moderate compensation being made me for improvement, and, further, that I have no objection to your Indians cultivating any land within my boundaries until such time as your claims are settled; but, in that case, the land so cultivated should not be included in your Reservation.

"I wish it distinctly understood that your Indians shall have no claim on me for the work they may do in clearing or otherwise:

"R. C. Murphy,

Kwion Bar. 26 April 1877.

The history of the case, the legal, or at least openable, position of the Indians in the matter, the strong feeling of Tse-e-wail, in respect to the place, and the efforts he had made, from time to time, to make the Government acquainted with his wishes, made it undesirable and contrary to the instructions given by both Government to the Reserve Commissioner to remove him, particularly as Mr. Murphy did not appear to have any real status.

But, on the other hand, the undersigned was unwilling to press hardy on that gentleman, and finally, having been able to secure, elsewhere, land for most of the Agawamis people, though not so convenient for them as Kow. ka. wa, and considerably detached, (as the nature of that portion of the district necessitated), the undersigned finally decided, in view of the circumstances, generally, that a suitable compromise would be effected by assigning a small piece of land, say 10 acres, on the east side of Kowka. wa Lake as part of the Kwion Bar Indian Reserve, leaving the remainder open for white settlement.

The Reserve, of about 10 acres, is to commence at the southern outfall of the Murphy ditch on

on east side of Kow. ka. wa Lake.

Hence true east & chains -

Hence true south 20 chains.

Hence true west 10 chain

Hence true north to Lake.

Thus following shore of lake to the starting point but it is to be drawn so as to include not less than 5 acres of cultivable land. That is low land.

The Reserve is shown approximately, on the annexed rough sketch.

The Indians are to have the prior right to water from the Creek flowing through the land, and from all available water supply for irrigating the reserve, if required.

? Supt Genl of Indian Affairs
see M. of D. with Lower Fraser
Union Bar Grant

Mr Sprout
Comos

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Commission.

Private

Dear Sir,

I have been asked to report on the regulation between the Union Bar chief and Mr Murphy, and I enclose for your information a copy of the same.

I have not been able to find any mention of Kow. ka. wa as an assigned Reserve on the official map, which you state it is in your paper to the Chief dated 27 Decr 1875 (see my report, but, no doubt the Indians formerly grew potatoes there, and strictly it was an Indian settlement.

Considering this I thought it right to give the Chief a piece ~~about~~^{about} 10 acres, of which 5 acres must be good potatoe land seemed to me enough for him and that it would satisfy his feeling with respect to the place.

Captain John and the other Union Bar Indians did not seem to have much feeling about the place, and I did not see any good in moving Mr. Murphy, because for these Indians in general I assigned other ground, particularly, on the right bank above the Sisters, at a village called "Puck-a-hole-chin", or some such name, and on the big island (Sea Bird Island, down the river between Skewaw-tits and Popkum).

That Island is meant for the Yale, Hope, Union Bar, Skewaw-tits or Indians and there is fine land on it, and claiming much that the Indians should have it, I was averse from giving them many little bits of inferior soil further up the river.

I think the Union Bar chief was absent, but the above was explained to Capt. John, and I am sure I have done in this matter what was best for the Indians while hoping that I had satisfied the feeling which the Chief personally had for the place at Kow. ka. wa.

I write this, so that you can remand the Indians of my reasons.

Yours truly
Mr. George Cope.
Yale }

St. G. M. Sprout

British Columbia
Indian Res. Commission

Victoria 18 May 1883

In reference to a letter purporting to be from Mr. Thor Greenhow, Okanagan, but not in his handwriting, dated 29 April 1883, addressed to F. G. Vernon Esq. about an Indian Fishing Reserve at Swan Lake, Okanagan, and by the latter gentleman handed to the Indian Department, the undersigned has the honour to report.

That Mr. Greenhow is in error in stating that the undersigned laid off any Indian Reserve at Okanagan, inasmuch as all the Reserves there were assigned by the Reserve Commission which then was composed of three gentlemen.

The Reserve Commission sent out by their assignment of Indian lands did not encroach upon Mr. Greenhow's pre-emption at Swan Lake. That gentleman, so far as could be ascertained, did not occupy legally any land there, though he may have made a pre-emption record. Even had he fulfilled the occupancy conditions, he could not have ~~included~~ ^{included} the old Indian fishing settlement, at the head of Swan Lake, within his pre-emption.

The instructions from both the Govtⁿ and the Prov. Govt^t required that the Indians should not be disturbed in such fishing places and the actions of the Commission with respect to these, generally, in the interior

is fully described in the general Report of the Commiss^{rs} acting for the Province, dated 1st Aug^{ust} 1878, and addressed to the then Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, the Hon. F. G. Vernon.

In assigning such fishing places in the interior, convenient access must be provided together with a piece of land as a camping ground, and enclosure for horses.

The fishing reserve at the head of Swan Lake was made as small as possible, and the Commissioners were guided by three main considerations in locating it.

(1) To include what the Indians pointed out as their usual place of fishing on the stream (then dry).

2, To draw the lines of the proposed enclosure so that the Indians could have access, as nearly as possible, directly from the main wagon road, thus to avoid the passage of Indians over the lands of white settlers, and the inconvenience of their leaving gates open, and so forth.

3, To provide a share of the good fence timber, at the head of Swan Lake, for use by the Indians at their fishing place.

These considerations dictated the location and shape of the Reserve which is shown, approximately, on the following rough sketch, subject to survey.

Mr. Greenhow is

further, in error in stating that the decision of the Prov. Com^{rs} completely shut him off from the waters of the Lake. He did not possess any land, and it therefore could not be shut off; but, as a matter of fact, the Indian land (coloured red on sketch), occupies only about one half of the head of the lake. The remaining portion at head of lake, and, continuously, for more than a mile round the north east shore (Coloured yellow on sketch), was unoccupied when the Reserve Commission left the ground, and remained so for about two years until 8 Nov 1879, when it was pre-empted by Mr. Joseph Andrew.

The land, coloured yellow on sketch, or a portion of it, could, up to the date of Mr. Andrew's pre-emption, have been obtained by Mr. Greenhow had he desired it. Because, on the 27 Sept 1877, under an arbitration award of the three gentlemen forming the Committee, with respect to a matter different from that now being reported on, Mr. Greenhow acquired a right to select 320 acres of unoccupied land at "the head of Swan Lake" but not to interfere "with fish stations which the Indian Reserve Commission may give to the Indians."

? G. H. Spout
Com^{rs}

Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 18 May 1880

Sir,

I beg herewith to return the letter, as per margin, which you handed me, and to enclose also my Report on the subject matter thereof by which you will observe that Mr. Greenhow's statements are incorrect. I further enclose copy of the Report.

The Commission, fortunately, has been able to dispense with laying off many of these small fish fisheries in the interior; but the one at Swan Lake was one which the Indians would not surrender, and the Commissioners were glad to be able to locate it conveniently, and close to the main road, as the sketch in my report shows.

On the general question of these small fisheries, I beg to enclose an extract from the Report of the Prov. Com^{rs} to the Chi. Com^{rs} of Lands, dated 1 Janst 1878, and would call attention to that part of it on the subject of a possible conflict between the Indians who resort to such places to fish, and the settlers, who, in irrigation, may divert so much of the water of the stream that the fish cannot ascend.

Such a question is likely to arise, at the head of Swan Lake, between Mr. Greenhow and the Indians.

I am Sir &c
S. G. Spout.

I. H. Powell Esq. M.D.
Mr. Secy.

Indian Res. Com.

Victoria 19 May 1880

Sir

In reference to the intrusion of
Chinamen on the Indian lands at Skupton
Flat, Thompson River, which has been the
subject of repeated communication between
the Res. Comm. and the Provincial
Gov^t, between the Dominion & the Prov. Gov^t,
and between the Res. Com. and yourself,
and respecting which the Prov. Gov. has full in-
formation in a detailed Report sent to them
on the 18 Aug^t 1878, I find that a Certificate
of Improvement, dated 23 Feb^r 1880, has been
issued in favour of Ah Yip, the principal in-
truder.

I am & &
S. G. M. Sproat Com^r

J. W. Pouncey Esq.
and Super Victoria

Indian Res. Com.

Victoria 19 May 1880

Sir,

I enclose "Surveyors Instructions" for
the Katzie Subgroup of Indians and beg to say
that, as you will observe, it is deemed desirable,
under the circumstances, to give considerable
discretion to you after examining the grounds with
respect to portions of the proposed reserves, as
the Commission was unable, from high water,
to make the necessary examination during
their visit to that locality.

I much honor you to

lay off and survey what you may select, bearing
in mind the general considerations mentioned in
the notes contained in the instructions, and having
reference to the result also of satisfying the
claims in this, the permanent assignment
of lands for their use. Should any unexpected
difficulties arise you can telegraph to me.

The general "Surveyors Instructions"
for the remainder of the season after you have
finished Katzie will be sent to you, addressed
Kootsee by Tuesday's steamboat. Meantime
following conversation, you doubtless will have
ascertained the prospects of the Hope and
Cathcart trail being open now, or soon.

In reference to my
remark in conversation, that Adam Lake
rescue should not be left as a detached
unfinished piece amidst surrounding recoveries
(which the elevation of a portion of it might
unexpectedly reconstruct, if not borne in mind),
I have referred to my note book and find
that at least of Okanagan Lake, snow
was visible first on the 13 Sept on the
mountains east of Spellumcheen.

Wishing you a successful season.

I am Sir.

E. Mohun Esq C.E.
Surveyor

Your obd^r Servt.
S. G. M. Sproat Com^r

J.R.C

Victoria 19 May 1880

Sir.

I have sent to Mr Broken his instructions
for Katzie, and said that his instructions for
the remainder of the season's work as determined

in conversation with yourself will be sent to him at Hazel by Friday's steamboat.

Cap. Tommell has telegraphed me for copies of some field notes for Slave River and I have instructed Mr. Farnell to prepare these at Land Office to-morrow and will send them to Cap. Tommell by Friday's steamboat. I told the telegraph man to charge the 6 bits for the telegram to your Dept. marking it Survey.

I. W. Powell Esq.
The Super. Victoria
for Govt. Sport Comⁿ

J. R. L.

Victoria 19 May 1880

Sir,
I reply to your telegram just received asking for field notes of Lot 443. St. Slave River. Enclose all the information which can be got at the Land Office.

The west boundaries of Lots 437 and 443 have not been run on the ground.

Cap. Tommell C.C.
Surveyor Gen.
Slave River or Langley

British Columbia
Indian Reserve Comⁿ

Victoria 20 May 1880

The under-signed has the honour to submit the following Report on a letter from Mr. Samuel Shannon,

Slave River, dated 15 May 1880, addressed to Cap. Tommell, Surveyor of Indian Reserves, and by him, forwarded to J. W. Powell Esq. Indian Superintendent, Victoria.

The Indian Reserve Comⁿ on the 27 June 1879, assigned to the Dominion Govt. as an Indian Reserve, the land on which Mr. Shannon has intruded. This assignment was made from lands which, in the autumn of 1878, had been reserved by the Prov. Govt. for the Dominion Govt. as railway lands. The Ind. Res. Comⁿ was directed by the Dom. Govt. to proceed with its special work as if no railway lands had been reserved.

It appears nevertheless, that Mr. Shannon, subsequently, wh., it is said carries on the business of a logger at Slave River, subsequently squatted on a portion of the above mentioned Indian land, and that as he states in his letter, he has been in continuous occupation of said portion of land since last Sept - has run his lines and driven corner stakes on which he has placed notices of occupation, and, further, that he has erected buildings and made exclusive improvements on the land in connection with his business as a logger.

The land having been surveyed by the Prov. Govt. the undersigned may remark there was no necessity for stakes being put in.

Mr. Shannon states that he claims the land which he is attempting to hold by what he calls a "squatter's right".

This is a right unknown to the Land Laws of Br. Columbia.

With respect to the ^{raiding} lands in New Westminster district such a right exists, so far as the undersigned is aware, only in the form of a Departmental assurance which, the newspapers say, has been given that occupiers, considered to be bona fide settlers, would not be disturbed, but would be placed on the same footing as other occupiers who might acquire lands under regulations of the Dominion Land Office in this Province, to be subsequently made.

Another a squatter, like Mr. Shannon, who, in the course of his business, cuts down and removes valuable timber, would be considered by the Dominion Land Office as an ordinary settler if it is not necessary to inquire, as only the Indian Dept., and not the Dom. Land Office, appears to be concerned in the present case.

It will hardly be contended, though Mr. Shannon would seem to desire to put forward the plea, that a gentleman can acquire any legal, or, other, right to formally assign Indian lands in this Province by the mere fact of squatting on them, or, that he can cut timber on Indian lands without authority from the Superintendent.

On the contrary, Mr. Shannon, by clause 16 of the Indian Act, is liable to forfeit \$200 for every tree he has cut on such lands without special licence, and the whole of any "boom" or raft, with which such timber has been intermixed at a sawmill, is liable to seizure and forfeiture until the Indian logs have been satisfactorily separated.

The question

of Mr. Shannon's right does not seem however to require discussion.

What Mr. Shannon probably means to urge by his letter is, that there are mitigating circumstances, in his case, which he submits for consideration, but these do not appear to the undersigned to be borne out by facts.

The undersigned may here remark that there is not a single instance, during the last 3½ years since the Reserve Commission began to adjust the Indian land question on the main-land, of any incident, even with merely squatting rights, having been disturbed in his occupancy, or, improvements, when these had commenced, or been made before the visit of the Commission.

In general a compromise has been effected, and it must be said that, in most cases, the Indians have been very reasonable in not making inconvenient demands, though squatters in some cases have occupied land which the Indians hoped to get and much wished to have.

Mr. Shannon's case is altogether of another character. He, and, it is said, others, intruded upon the land in question subsequently to its assignment as an Indian Reserve, and, though remonstrated with by the Indians, Mr. Shannon does not appear to have made any inquiry as to their allegations.

The Langley Chief, Casimir, states, that in 1879, "before the winter set in",

He told Mr. Mr. Shannon that the land he was cutting timber on had been assigned as an Indian Reserve, but no communication on the subject reached the Reserve Commission or the Indian Department at

New Westminster.

The fact of the existence of the Res. Commr., of its having been at work in New Westminster District, of its having visited Stave River & adjusted a difficult question with a neighbour of Mr. Shannon (Mr. Thompson) was perfectly known, and Mr. Shannon, at any time between the date of his entry upon the land and the present time, could have ascertained the facts by writing a letter to the undersigned, or to Mr. Semple.

It cannot be said that the Gov. has lost any time in making Indians practically aware of the Indian Land adjustment in the New Westminster District, seeing that a Surveyor of Indian Reserves is already at work there.

S^r G. M. Grant
Comr.

Indian Res. Comr.

Victoria 20 May 1880

Sir

I beg to enclose herewith two copies of a Report on a Letter of Mr. Samuel Shannon, Slave River, 15 May 1880, which report states the facts so far as known to me, of his intrusion upon the Langley and Monck Indian land there, and I also enclose Mr. Shannon's Letter with that of Capt. Demmett dated 16 May 1880.

Yours very truly.

J. W. Powell Esq. M.D.
Dr. Superintendent

British Columbia
Ind. Res. Commission

Victoria

20 May 1880

Sir.

It has been arranged that you shall survey this season the Reserves at the head of Okanagan Lake, Spallumcheen and those left unfinished by Capt. Demmett on Shuswap Lake.

It will be convenient if, in going, or returning, your party surveys the Coldstream Reserves left unfinished last season by the Surveyor in Nicola Valley.

You will make your way to the Okanagan District either by the Hope-Nicola trail, or wagon road, as you may find most desirable in reference to economy of time and money, having previously arranged for transport of your effects either by pack train or wagon, and should the obstructions on the route temporarily stop your party, you can survey the reserves in the neighbourhood of Hope until the road is open.

I annex list of the reserves for surveying which instructions are enclosed.

Those for Okanagan, Spallumcheen and Shuswap Lake are already in your possession.

The delays which you state are in some cases caused by the running of ditch levels for irrigation make it desirable that you should have discretion to run these, or, refrain from running them - and this is accordingly given to you. But you will be good enough to help the Indians in this matter where you consider it advisable.

I enclose copy of a report made by me on a complaint of Mr. Thor Greenhow relative to the fishing reserve at the head of Swan Lake, near Okanagan Lake.

The Indians state flat on both Swan & Duck Lakes, the white settlers have been taking timber from the reserves, and it may be well that you should report to the Superintendent what you may observe in this matter.

It has not hitherto been considered advisable to survey the Okanagan Reserves, owing to the dispute between Mr. O'Keefe and the Indians, but as Mr. Walker stated, lately, to Mr. Inglit and D. Powell, that he agreed with the contention of the Reserve Comm'ee that Mr. O'Keefe's claim was unfounded, you have now to survey the disputed piece. If Mr. O'Keefe interposes he will render himself liable to the penalties of the Provincial Act for the protection of Surveyors.

You may advise the Superintendent of the particulars of any fresh phase of the water dispute between Mr. Charles Meekin, and Joey Aska, should such have appeared in addition to what is stated in my Field Minutes.

It is improbable that the water used by the mill erected by Mr. O'Keefe at Okanagan will, appreciably, diminish the water in Meadow Creek which might be available for irrigating the Indian lands; but you will be good enough to direct your attention to this point.

The Indians talked of making a dam at Meadow Creek, and a few hints to them respecting this work might be useful.

It is unnecessary for me to enlarge my observations on various points of detail as you were with the Com'mee when these Okanagan Reserves were laid out.

Be good enough to send to Cap. Lemmette, who is working in the New Westminster District, any of the "Instruction for Surveyor" for reserves in the neighbourhood of Hope which you may not have finished before leaving for the interior.

I am on
S. G. Hospital Rd.

A Book endorsed "Indian Reserves mainland 1877" containing descriptions & details, by yourself from Rock Thompson to Osoyoos.

(Instructions for Hope Reserves.
Your party)

Indian Res. Com'm.

Victoria 21 May 1880

In reference to the case of Mr. J. F. Allison who resides on the west side of Okanagan lake (about opposite to the Mission), and certain Indians living near Mr. Allison's house, and the request of the Surveyor General, in letter dated 20 May 1880 addressed to Lt Col. Poole Sup't of Indian Affairs, for information as to whether a piece of land which Mr. Allison wishes

to acquire and had surveyed in 1876 would interfere with Indian lands in that neighbourhood, the undersigned begs to state that, though some Indians have houses and cultivated patches beside Mr Allison's land, no reserve was assigned, and the Indians were totally the Reserve Com or had declined to assign one in that locality.

There is consequently no objection, on the part of the Reserve Commissioners, to the acquiring of land by Mr Allison in the neighbourhood of his house, but, as the Indians are probably still living there, and questions may arise in the future between them and Mr Allison, the undersigned think it may be well to mention that the case of Mr Allison is fully described in the general Report of the Commissioners acting for the Province, dated 1 Jan 1878 and addressed to the Hon: The Chief Com^a of Lands & Works.

An extract from said Report is herewith sent for the information of the Supdt of Indian Affairs, but, inasmuch as there is no Indian Reserve at the place, it would seem that any questions between Mr Allison and the Indians would perhaps have to be determined by the Provincial Authorities.

Sd / M Sprout
Com^a

British Columbia
I.R.C Victoria

20 May 1880

Sir,

It has been arranged that the Survey party under your command shall survey, this season, so many of the Reserves as you can in the District at Head of Okanagan Lake, Skellum Creek and those left unfinished by Capt. Semmott on Shuswap Lake; and, for various reasons, it is thought desirable that, after arriving in the above interior district, you should survey, first, the reserve at the head of Okanagan Lake.

The Superintendent will doubtless instruct you to report to him as to the intrusion of Mr O'Keefe on a portion of the last named Reserve, and, I may mention that the Indian Chief William wrote to me a letter complaining that white men had cut their timber at Swan and Duck Lakes, a matter which, also, might be reported on.

I enclose copy of a Report made by me, at the request of the Superintendent, on a Letter of complaint ^{written} made by Mr H Greenlaw, to Mr J. G. Ponson, as to his position at Swan Lake, also, Letter of Comm^m to Col. Houghton 20 Jan 1878, and the latter's reply 26 Dec 1878, as to the amendment of the Indian Line adjoining his land in Peace Valley, Okanagan.

Your attention may also be directed to the question whether the erection of the mill by Messrs O'Keefe & Greenlaw, on Meadow Creek, will affect the supply of water which may be available for irrigating the Indian lands!

The Indians spoke of

making a dam on this Creek, and a few hints from you to them as to its construction might be useful.

If Mr O'Keefe interferes with your survey, he will be liable to the penalties of the Provincial act for the protection of Surveyor. The Attorney General, I am informed by the Superintendent, now admits that Mr O'Keefe has no right to the Indian land he has occupied.

In your report to the Superintendent you might describe what Mr O'Keefe has done upon the said land since he was warned of his trespass by the Reserve Owner, so that the question of penalties and the appropriation, or disposition, of what Mr O'Keefe may regard as his improvement can be satisfactorily dealt with and some account should be given of the crops he has taken from the land and benefitted by.

It is unnecessary for me to refer to all matters in detail connected with the Okanagan Reserve, as you were over the ground with the Com. on.

The delays which you often are caused, without corresponding benefit, by the running of lines for irrigating ditches, make it desirable that you should have discretion to own these in order to help the Indians, only, where it appears to be necessary, and, this discretion you will accordingly exercise.

You will make your way to the Okanagan Ranches site by the wagon road, or Hope Nicola trail as you may find most desirable in reference to economy of time

and money, having previously arranged for transport of your effects either by pack train or wagon.

If, as suggested in your conversation, you get your pack train to Yale, you could go by either route, but, on the whole as it is said that the Hope Nicola will not be open for a month, and as then, there would be uncertainty as to the state of the bridges, you may find the wagon and the latter route to adopt.

I send herewith a book endorsed "Indian Reserves Okanagan 1877," containing sketches and descriptions, by yourself, from North Thompson to Osoyoos.

The copy of Minutes of Decision you slack you have, or can get from Capt. Bennett.

Until you get your pack train to Yale, you can go on with the Katsas Reserves, doing first those portions temporarily reserved, so that the reductions and actual locations may be known, and you can then leave the remainder to be done latter on, proceeding then to Okanagan. Please send back the Katsas instructions, and report as to what you have done there, before leaving for the interior.

It will be convenient if, in going or returning from Okanagan, your party could survey the Coldwater Reserves in Nicola Valley, the instruction for which you have in your possession; and any fresh phase of the question between Lelycroft and Mr Charles, near mouth of Cold Water, might be reported to the Superintendent.

If the water is high in the Cola water, as is quite likely, you will hardly be able to survey those reserves on your way to Okanagan, & moreover Paul's Basin up the Cola water lies high, and you might find snow deep at this season, but these matters must be left to your discretion.

I do not think it necessary, as intended of, to give you instructions for Reserves at Hope or Yale, for it is evident that there is not even any chance of your being able to finish Katzie before your train will be at Yale, to which place you said you had ordered it.

Wishing you a successful season

Chas. C.
R. Surveyor
Victoria.

I am etc
Dr. W. Sproat Com^a.

— 26

J. R. C.

Victoria 25 May 1880

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 22^o I have not caused the Lower Fraser minutes to be engrossed, as I wished to make a complete work by including Yale, or if not Yale, at least Katzie, from which latter Mr. McLean has not sent me a report.

If you wish the minutes to be engrossed without including these places, I will cause it to be done, and you will oblige me by saying if you desire plans to be sent in with the minutes.

The

reply to the latter part of your letter will require some consideration, and I will therefore again address you thereon.

J. W. Powell Esq^r
Genl. Surv^r

I am etc etc
Dr. W. Sproat Com^a

J. R. C.

Victoria 26 May 1880

Sir.

In the "instructions" for the Langley and Phonock Indians, the piece of land in Section 21 - Block V North range 2 West, is stated as 80 acres. It should be 40 acres.

Be good enough to alter the instructions accordingly. The place is behind Mr. Brown's opposite here Westminster.

Cop. Jeannette
Langley

I am etc etc
Dr. W. Sproat
Com^a

J. R. C.

Victoria.

26 May 1880

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20 inst. be good enough to explain to Casimir, if you have a sufficiently good interpreter, in such a manner as will cause him clearly to understand

11) That it was necessary to make temporary reservations in the neighbourhood of Stave River, owing to the high water and mosquitoes, so as to prevent intrusions until the question was decided.

, 2, Section 2 T 15 was thus received, so that after I had seen the other Langley lands, I could form an opinion as to whether more than the south west quarter and the south half of the north west quarter of section 2 T 15 was required for their reasonable uses.

I decided it was not.

3, The other piece of land, similarly dealt with, was a piece behind Whonock old reserve at the village, in Section 5 T 15, the piece about which you wrote.

The question was whether it would be better for the Indians to have a piece there, or the fractional north west quarter of Section 3 T 15 on right bank of Slave River.

I decided that the latter would be better for them, and more in accordance with their wants, as affording land in some parts good for potatoes, and also having timber, and a good side frontage; besides it may be mentioned that Mr. Stuart claims his behind Whonock village, and at the place on Slave River there would be less danger of shooting and trouble between the Indians and whites.

The map in the hands of the chief was given him at his request to show to intruders, and it was the map containing the temporary elevations, necessary.

Cosimir is so intelligent and so clearly

appeared to understand the course pursued that it was not thought that his having the map would lead to any misconception, while on the other hand, until the surveyors arrived (and it was then known when they would arrive) his possession of it might save squatters from intruding and being inconvenienced.

I am etc
J. R. C.
St. G. & S. Co.

Cap. Jannette
Mr. Res Surveyor
Langley

P.S. Enclosed field note
memo. as to Whonock Rd Reserve
no G.R.S.

J. R. C.

Victoria 1 June 1880

Sir,

In case your party should be detained after arriving at Yale owing to high water upon the wagon road beyond Spuzzum, I send herewith to your address at Katzie some instructions as to survey of the Spuzzum Reserves, so that in case of need your party may not be obliged to be inactive.

I think it will be better to re-survey the old reserves, indeed, it will, I presume, be necessary to do so under the system of surveys required by the Provincial Govt.

Your obt. Servt
E. Inshur Esq C.E.
Indian Res. Surveyor
Katzie

Please return the instructions when leaving Spuzzum, whether or not the reserves are completed.

J. R. C. Con't.

Victoria 1 June 1880

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 17th instant complaining of Mr O'Keefe's continued intrusion upon the Indian lands at Okanagan.

Please to say to your friends that I have done everything in my power to urge the Government both at Victoria and Canada to settle this matter. I have not forgotten it, and the Surveyor Mr Broome is instructed this summer to go and include the piece of land in the survey. It will not be long before he is here.

I have been told that the Indians have gone upon the land in the same way that Mr O'Keefe has done. If they have done so, and occupy it peacefully I cannot say they have done wrong and I think the law will soon stretch out its hand, and Mr O'Keefe will have to remove. As I may not be here, if you write again, write to Mr Powell Indian Superintendent Victoria.

Chief Basil or William
Care of Ph. Gould
Farmer Okanagan

J. R. C.

Victoria 3 June 1880

Sir,

At Skwah, had a small Reserve near Mr Chapman, Chilcotin. There is a dispute which is described in the annexed extract from a report of mine.

I am Yours truly
J. R. C.

What is needed is that some one in authority should draw the lines on the ground showing what George should have and what Warlum should have, as they don't seem able to settle it themselves as I hope they would.

You might do this when here, in a quiet way. It might be well to ask them what they themselves had decided upon and offer to draw the lines and put in posts and if they arranged nothing then you might settle it for them.

There is a grave on Mr Chapman's land near the Skulkayn Reserve and if the Indians ask again about this you might note the position of the grave. It is not upon a Reserve, but is protected by the Indian grave Ordinance.

It would be better if they willingly moved it, but if not willing they should enclose it and then a meeting with Mr Chapman would occur.

P.S.

I am &c
St G. G. G. Con't

Tell chief Joe and his people at Skwah, Klaw, ab. pilt to settle among themselves that question about David's land which Joe mentioned when in Victoria but say that an Indian cannot have cultivable land in 2 different places. He must choose where his location is to be either in one or the other.

Int. G. M. S.

Cap. Jammett
Ad. Rec. Survey - Chilcotin

Extract enclosed from
Gen. Rec'd 1879
Red Book Page 166.

J. R. C

Victoria 3 June 1880

Samuel Green Esq.
Chilliwack

Dear Sir,

Adverting to your letters of the 12 Decr-ast and Feb 15 and 15 April last on the subject of an exchange of some of your land (which you considered might be added to the N.W. Kawa, a.ple Indian Reserve) for certain portions of Crown Lands which you mentioned in the above letters, and in reference also to my replies in which I said it would be necessary to consult Mr. Justice C.M.G. on the matter. I find that it is a matter on which I, as Res. Comr., have to decide as to any recommendations which might be made to the Govt. Govt.

The Dom. Land Office will be concerned with the lands remaining after all previously alienated lands, including such Indian Reserves as may be laid out, have been defined.

Such being the case I have given your proposal my best consideration and I have come to the conclusion that it cannot be made the subject of a recommendation from the Res. Comr. to the Provincial Government, as extra lands for the people of the tribe in question have been found elsewhere.

I am Dear Sir

Your ever
affectionately
Yrs. G. M. Sprout A.M.

Indian Reserve Comr.

Victoria 4 June 1880

Sir.

With reference to the letter No 176111, 17 May 1880, from the Sup. Govt. to yourself which you have shown to me, in which it is stated that the Hon. Mr. Walkem, when lately in Ottawa, excused the Provincial Govt. for their delay in conveying Indian Res. to the Dom. Govt. by stating that no maps or returns of Survey had up to the time he left Victoria for Ottawa reached the Dept. of Lands & Works. I have to state that Mr. Walkem's allegation is incorrect -

The maps & returns for the Survey work of the two parties employed in 1878 were placed in his hands seven months before he left Victoria -

I enclose copy of my Official letter to Mr. Walkem, dated 20 May 1879, enclosing the documents.

J. W. Powell Esq.
M.A.-Saput - Victoria

I am Sir &c
G. M. Sprout Comr.

Memorandum on a request in the Surveyor General's letter of 5th June 1880 to the Indian Superintendent with respect to a road which the municipality of Chilliwack wish the Prov. Govt. to layette, and which will partly pass through the old Indian Reserve near Millers Landing.

J

It would under ordinary circumstances, be undesirable to permit a reduction of this Reserve as it is small, and should Mr. Galt's Surveying Scheme be completed, will be seriously affected thereby, but as the Indian settlers reasonably require access to a portion of the bank not liable to be washed away by the Fraser, and as it seems the matter cannot be arranged between those deserving the roadway and Mr. Miller, the owner of the frontage adjoining the reserve the undersigned would recommend that 33 feet along the west boundary of the reserve be disposed of to meet the views of the Chilliwack Municipality.

So far as the undersigned recollects the place, it must, however, be remarked, that this privilege will cut off an Indian fence and probably cleared or cultivated land, if not a house, and it therefore will be necessary for the Municipality to compensate the Indian for the land and for the improvements.

Capt^r Jernett might act for the Department in this matter, if so authorised by the Superintendent. A further remark may be made. The undersigned thinks that the Indian principally concerned, work generally for Mr. Miller who opposes the road, and who, naturally, might instigate the Indian to refuse consent, but under the circumstances, looking to the public convenience, this possible opposition might be overruled on the Indian receiving compensation, and Capt^r Jernett in negotiating might bear in mind and mention to the Indian that, the Commissioner foreseeing the probability of an application for a road, after having witnessed the destructive

effects of the last years floods, has authorised a moderate extension of the Reserve in a north easterly direction up left Bank of the Fraser.

This addition of wild land however, cannot be considered as compensation to the Indian for a cleared and cultivated residential spot.

It is mentioned as an argument which Capt^r Jernett might use in acting for the Department with the Indian or Indians concerned.

The undersigned may remark that the resolution of the Council copied into the Surveyor General's letter of the 5th June 1880 does not state whether the petitioners request to the Council for the proposed road was granted or refused by the Council, but it presumed it was granted.

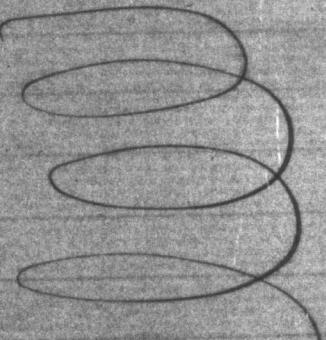
(Sig) G. M. Sproat
9th June 1880

Pictou
June 9th 1880

To Capt^r Jernett
Chilliwack

" Along boundary lot 31"

(Sig) Sproat



I.R.C.

Victoria 9th June 1880

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 1st Inst,
I telegraphed to you to day, as you requested,
"Along boundary lot 31."

The measurements given you for the old
reserves are copied from old descriptions
which may be somewhat in error, and are
only for your general guidance, you should
always give the full size of the old reserve,
and can exercise your own judgment in
such cases. On land newly assigned,
the measurements, where given, are of course,
only an approximation, and you should
never cut off Indian cultivation by running
a stringent boundary. If the Indian improvements
are on a white man's land, and a question exists
between the Indian and the settler, it is a
matter which you should report, but generally,
it is necessary and expected that a Surveyor
should exercise a fair discretion.

I am etc

Ass't M. Sproat

Capt. J. M. Sproat

Indian Survey

Bullerwhack

Compt.

In Re Com a

Victoria 10 June 1880

Sir,

I did not reply, except by message,
to your letter of 31 ult. on the subject of details
of accounts, for the year ending 30 June 1879 -
as it was necessary for me to form some idea
of what your request involves in the way of
work.

It will cause the writing of over
100 letters, the preparation of well nigh 1000
Vouchers, their transmission to different persons,
some of whom may be from home, residing
between such widely separated parts as Bamfield
and Otway - and their return to Victoria -
fact which will take up a considerable
time, and which makes me sorry there should
have been a misapprehension as to the wishes
of the Department -

I have in accordance,
with yours of the 3rd, given notice to Messrs
Blenkinsop and Powell that their services
will not be required after the 30 June, and
I note the same for myself -

I will send
you the finished work when that time comes,
or sooner as it may be completed, and
give you then, also, a list of the work
that will be unfinished -

I. W. Powell Esq.

Indian Dept

Victoria

I am & a

Sd: G. M. Sproat

is

I.R.C.
Victoria 12th June 1880

Sir /

There are no agricultural lands in the neighbourhood of Yale of sufficient extent and of suitable quality for the numerous Indians in that locality, and it is therefore desirable that in addition to such crop land as may be available, the Indians should have the means of continuing to carry on the industry of cutting and preparing wood for steamboat fuel which many of them have hitherto pursued.

They showed me on the spot what they wished to have; and after examining the country, I decided what should be done, and how it would be possible to gain the desired object without including any quantity of timber valuable for sawlogs, or for railway requirements.

It occurs to me, however, now, that it would be better if the Provincial Government agreed to give a lease or timber cutting privilege for three pieces of land, instead of having to convey as reserves long strips of useless soil, and with poor scattered timber, and I beg that you will ascertain their views on the subject.

I am &c

I.W. Powell Esq^r (Sg) G.M.Sprott
Indian Superintendent Commissioner
Victoria

I.R.C.

Victoria
24 June 1880

Sir /

Enclose documents by as per annexed list relative to Indian Land Assignments in the Lower Fraser.

The interrupted work in consequence of my retirement from office will, for this district be contained in a separate book

I am &c.

I.W. Powell, Esq^r
Indian Superintendent
Victoria

(Sg) G.M.Sprott
bmr.

Minutes of Decisions in red book with notes for Departmental information

Minutes of Decisions with plans intended for the information of the First Govt

Additional plans of Burnard Inlet reserves for ~~the~~ Provincial Govt - to be annexed to minutes of Decisions thereto already in the possession of that Govt.

The following Instructions to Surveyors in duplicate for portion of Lower Fraser

Burnard Inlet
Yche-wass-an
Muskrat arm
New Westminster

Was to come at back of the 2 mentioned
no minute of Decisions can be found

Caguillam

Langley and Whinock (copy kept
Jennett has original)

Matsqui

Sumas River

Fraserian Slough

Chilliwack (copy kept Jennett has original)

bleam

Popcorn

Skwaw-tah

bhamil

Sk-wah-look

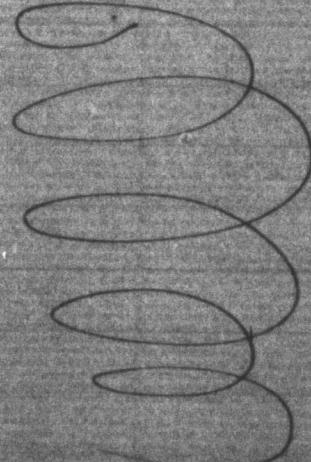
Also

1. Copy of instructions for
"Hope Indians and
"Union Bar subgroup of
Yale Indians

Note

The above will move them further
for a survey party on the lower Fraser
and I have no time to add to them.
They are in duplicate but one should
be lost in the field.

(Sig) G. H. A.



Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 26 June 1883

Sir,

With reference to your intimation that
the services of myself, Mr. Blenkinsop and
Mr. Gearwell would have to cease on the 30th. inst.
I beg to state that notwithstanding our best
endeavours, a considerable amount of
necessary work, requiring probably a fortnight
to complete, will be left unfinished at
that date, and as this would be embarrassing
to the public service, I await your instructions
on the matter.

Yours ob't servt
G. H. & Privat. Com.

Victoria 6 July 1883

Sir

I have yours of the 30 June 3 July also
telegram 2 July.

The Skukayn and Ya-kul-a-kun
tribe Indians have to divide the new piece between
these reserves between themselves and you need
not run lines through the new piece.

You can always extend new boundaries a chain or
two in your discretion so as not to cut off Indian
cultivation or forcing to improve shape.

Possibly owing to instrumental variations the
old survey descriptions may not agree with your
bearing but always take the lines between the
old posts when you can find the latter. Do not
include the bank and single piece you mention.

I telegraph you to-day - Skukayn 56
Please in future address D'Pouell - Sir G. H. & Privat.
Cap. Jennette - Chilliwack -

Indian Res. Com^{ee}

Victoria 12 July 1880

Sir,

I send herewith sundry documents as per annexed list for the information and use of the Department.

These have been somewhat hurriedly compiled and I would gladly have subjected all of them to a careful revision had time permitted.

Yours very truly

J. W. Powell Esq.
A. A. Superintendent
Victoria

S. G. M'Isaac Esq.

In One Book

Commission Decisions.

Spuzzum to Lytton.

Nicola River part, the rest being among Nicola Decision
Cooks Ferry - Alderbar in Nicola Valley -
Upper Similkameen -

A copy of the above, but without sketches,
for the Prog. Govt.

Three Books No. 1. 203 containing "Interrupted Work"

1. At Lower Fraser, i.e. Yale, Salter, Harrison
River - Simiahmed.

2. At Lytton.

3. In Yale District - viz Oregon Jack & Cornell Indians
(Bonaparte & Kermeneus Indians)

(Memorandum - As to the area of work done by
the Commission in the interior of the mainland,

Victoria 19 July 1880

Sir.

If I have to go into Cap Donnell's letter of 12th to day it will spoil my whole day's work at the stage I now am at, so that I suggest specifically that you tell him it will be looked into and sent to him at Chemain by next mail. He has plenty of work at Chemain which he can be going on with.

J. W. Powell Esq.

Yours obly
J. W. Powell.

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria 22 July 1880

Sir /

In adjusting the lands to which the Kuu-Kweth Indians are entitled, I am desirous of knowing the boundaries of the company's land at Fort Rupert, and shall be obliged to you for the loan of any sketch which you may have had prepared for the company's purposes, or for any information which you may be pleased to communicate on the subject.

It appears, so far as I know, the company's title consists of a pre-emption record, of which the following is a copy -

"Jan'y 6th 1863. - No 471"

"Frederick Fairlay son for the Hudson
"Bay Co 100 acres of land at Fort Rupert"
"including the Hudson Bay Co. fort, fortage"
"and garden".

I examined the ground in Mr. Shantz's company.
He pointed the place where, as he stated

the north west corner post of the pre-emption claim was. This was near the shore about 20 chains west from the Fort. I would remark in this that the Admiralty Chart in 1860 shows, as the fact was, an Indian village immediately west from the Fort and east of the said post.

This inclusion of an Indian Village within a pre-emption would not be in accordance with the law, and the pre-emption would fail.

The north east corner ~~post~~ was stated to be a little over $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile eastward along the shore, from the north west corner thus the width back from the shore, in order to give one hundred acres would be from 10 to 30 chains at different places.

This shape would of course be subject to rectification on survey.

As you are aware, there have been for many years Indian houses along the shore immediately East from the Fort, as well as west from it, and in fact, now there are houses in front of the Fort.

Mr. Gillays' pre-emption would, from one point of view, appear to mean that the 100 acres were to be as Government survey requirements dictated, but that, at all events, the Fort and garden site, and I presume the Fort frontage were desired.

The question is what is the best arrangement now for the parties concerned.

Will it suit the company if the Indians residing East and West of the Fort have a piece of land respectively

with frontage before the houses leaving the whole Fort frontage clear.

Dear Sir
W^r Charles W^r
Chief Factor
Hudson Bay Co
Compt^r

Your Obedt Servt
Sig. F M Sproat
born 1836

Victoria 22 July 1880

Dear Sir.

I am sorry to learn from your letter of the 14th inst that Mr. Trickey has become indebted to you, but I hope he may soon get employment that will enable him to liquidate his debt.

I recommended him to the Govt., as I promised for further employment, but the recommendation was not adopted - and I do inform him as soon as I myself was in possession of the information.

My letter of the 19th August 1879 to you ceased to be valid of course when he ceased to be in Govt. employment referring merely to what was to be done "in the meantime" until "otherwise ordered" from Ottawa.

I have informed D^r Powell that I do not think the Govt. is liable for the debt, under these circumstances.

Yours truly
F M Sproat

Victoria 22 July 1880

Dear Nickel,

I was very sorry to learn from your letter and from that of Mr. Inc. Myre, that there is an unsettled account between him and you which you are unable to pay. What I promised to you was that I would recommend you to the Govt. at Ottawa for employment, and this I did not fail to do as strongly as I could, but the Govt. did not approve what was recommended, and I wrote to tell you so soon as I myself was in possession of the information, and at same time I said I could not send you any more money, as the Govt. had not sent it to me, and I could not pay out of my own pocket.

I did everything for you that I possibly could as I have done for all the Indians but I had no more power than to make what I considered good recommendations to the Government.

I hope you will soon get good employment which you well deserve. I mentioned you to Mr. Underdown as you know.

I do not intend going again as Commissioner, but my heart and best wishes are with the Indians, and during 4 years past I have tried to do justice, both to them and to their white neighbours.

I do not know what is being done, or is going to be done about the lands of the Indians, and cannot tell you if another Commissioner

is going, nor who he is to be.

With best wishes to your wife.

I am Yours truly,

Mr. G. M. Sprout

P.S.

I have several times mentioned the conduct of the Chinaman at the land of Acc. of Shyne to Dr Powell, and I hope he will be dealt with.

Yours etc., S.

Indian Reserve Commission

Victoria 26 July 1880

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 24th inst. and note contents, which seems satisfactory as regards the site of the Indian village site for the Kwah. Kaw. et al tribe west of the fort at Fort Rupert, but I would respectfully point out that the frontage proposed to be assigned there, for that subgroup of Indians, merely include the existing houses, without leaving room for any others.

The Kwah. a. kah subgroup have 11 large Indian houses exclusive of Shanties on the portion of ground east of the fort frontage and the Govt. would expect me to provide ground at least for the sites of the Indian houses both Kwah. Kaw. et al. and Kwah. a. kah.

If then the piece of land east of the fort frontage is not assigned, land must be found elsewhere for the Kwah. a. kah Indians and where is this to be provided. The only other way

of adjustment would be to extend the Rush-Kewak people's land westerly along the shore including the so called R.C. Mission land where the old village was, and permit the Kweak, kahs to settle there.

But it occurs to me it would not probably suit the Company so well as my existing proposal, for the old R.C. Mission land is a nice piece with good portage and the present site of the Kweak village east of the Fort portage seems to be of little value except to the Indians, and they have been there so long it would trouble them much to move.

The whole piece in question east of the Fort portage comprises only about an acre.

The Company's claim to that would appear to be superior to that of the Indians, still I would ask you to reconsider the matter in relation to what I have stated above.

Awaiting the favour
of your reply

Alex. Munro Esq.
Hudson Bay Co.

Awaiting the favour

I am Sir & so
S^r G. W. Sprout
Commissioner

Indian Res. Comr.
Victoria 27 July 1880

Sir,

I have received your letter of this date and have arranged matters as follows.

I assign no.

land for the Indians immediately east of the Fort Frontage nor on the R.C. Mission land (so called, but assign immediately west from the R.C. Mission land (that is outside your pre-emption) a portion of land for those Indians whose houses are now immediately east of the Fort portage.

This I imagine will meet the requirements of the case, but I hope the Co. will not make the Indians remove hurriedly for they have large houses.

It is possible that the Indians may not like the place west of the R.C. Mission land, in which event they will probably migrate to Alert Bay which for some time they have been talking of.

I am Sir as a
Alex. Munro Esq. } S^r G. W. Sprout Com^r.
Ch. Factor. Hudson Bay Co. }

J. R. C.

Sir.

I beg to enclose, in connection with Reserve Comr. work in New Westⁿ District Mr. Howell's Report to me dated 16 May 1879 on the probable effect of the "Sumas" by King Act 1878 on the Indian Reserves at Chillicook Sumas and Nootka -

I am a m
J. W. Powell Esq. }
Indian Super. Victoria
Com^r.

I am a m
S^r G. W. Sprout
Com^r.

Sir,
I beg specially to ask you to care for the interests of Mr. Char. Heaton at Chem-

Victoria 28 July '80

who abandoned his pre-emption in order to facilitate a settlement with the Indians which otherwise would have cost great trouble to both Govt.

The case is described in the notes on claim records in the Red Book containing New West District Decisions.

Mr Nelson is to get, in lieu of area abandoned, 160 acres free of charge, and he has selected the latter and is improving it. I think you might instruct Cap Demmett to survey it and send you a sketch. I specially wish to you respecting Mr Chee Nelson, as he behaved so well in facilitating the work of the Govt., and as he cannot read or write, and may therefore require your help, should any questions as to his land arise.

J. W. Powell Esq
Genl Sup't

Your Obed Serv
The 8th instant:

J. R. C

Victoria 31 July 1880

Sir, I beg to send herewith the documents connected with coast records as per annexed list.

J. W. Powell Esq
Genl. Sup't

I am &c
St. G. Hospital Com.

Book of Decisions for Department - Sketched attached thereto

The same for Prov. Govt. the Decisions being numbered

15 Oct 1871

John S. Shultz
Paul's Basin
Colorado
A.M.C.
home from
down

M 1871
37
70 72
18
25 17

Next we present the results of studies by hand.

Franklin
1870-1871
Estimator

~~Mr. Peacock
has been
with Mr. Remond
9 days~~

on foot of Coldevalley
No rock-stem stems

organized
method

3 if Boston Bar Program
find that this plan will
not be forcing it to
lose lots of water & C
activities at B Bar
& Program on Fraser
isn't rung this first.

British Columbia.

Clinton W.J.
25 June 1886

Sir'

I have the honor to call
your attention to the fact
that 2 Chilcoten Indians
have been tried and convicted
and sentenced to death for
at these Aprijs here for the
murder of two Chinese
near alkali lake this
Spring. Their arrest and
conviction are mainly due
to the exertions of the Chief
of the Chilcotens called
Quahquin who sent out
some 50 of his young men
to track down
Lt Col Powell Ed. found

through whom to search
for and arrest the murderer
and furnish sufficient
Evidence of the fact -

These men were paid by
the local Government for
their trouble - but Anaheim
refused to take any money
as reward.

His answer was 'I
do not sell the blood of
my children'

It has suggested to me
however, that, that warlike
old chief would be pleased
(if not already provided)
with a Khelat or Deep

of \$1000 some kind
- Some diplomatic or
military uniform - another
distinctive dress to mark
his recognition as the
Chief of the Chilcotins.

It being at the same
time communicated to him
that the intention of the
present, is to give him
a practical recognition of
the assistance he rendered
to the law - and an
encouragement to him to
enforce the preservation of
Peace and Good Will
in all transactions and

intercourse between the
whites and his people.

and to prevent the
stealing of the settlers' cattle
which was now to lead
to bloodshed.

If this mode should
not be adopted then
perhaps you would employ
some other means of conveying
the same idea to him.

I mentioned your name
in an address I made the
Chief & other Chilcotins before
they left the Court, impressing
on them the necessity of keeping
the law & living in peace.

I have this honor to be
yours, &c.

Henry S. Pelton please

PS

I would add that
it is of great importance
that these 2 Chilcotins
(Nestle & Pepe & another)
should be re-executed at
Clinton where they were
tried and convicted -
the tribe will never
believe they have been
hanged.

They ask for
Wyanduke (who was
hanged at New Haven)
to this day - as none
of them saw him hanged.
My think he is still in
the Penitentiary and you
can't convince them to the
contrary.